

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**4-9 year olds**

Week 6

*Prayer*

# Prayer

The objective is the goal or main teaching point of this week's study. If you convey one thing to your players, make it this.

Read this passage aloud to the kids, as it will be the focus of this week's study. Each week's memory verse will be in bold.

Here is where we will discuss today's passage with the players. This can be read off the page or summarized and explained in the coach's own words.

**Objective** This study will show how Jesus tells us to go to God in prayer with our needs and look at the different ways God answers prayer.

## Scripture Passage:

**“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.** For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish?... If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” - Luke 11:9-13 (Memory verse, Luke 11:9, in **bold**)

## In the Word

Imagine that you were friends with the richest person on earth or the president, and they told you that you could ask them for whatever you wanted and they would give it to you. What would you ask for? As Christ's disciples, we are children, not of a rich or powerful man, but of the God of the Universe, who created and owns everything, and the Bible says that as His sons and daughters, we can pray to Him and ask for whatever we need. But sadly, so many of us don't use this awesome gift.

In Luke 11:9-13, Jesus invites us to go to Him in prayer. He tells us to ask, seek, and knock, which means go to God with the things we need and keep praying until He answers. Just as a loving father knows how to give his children what they need when they ask, God loves us even more, and wants to take care of all our needs through prayer.

Now this does not mean that when we pray, God will always give us exactly what we ask for, when we ask for it. Sometimes, God answers our prayers with a “no.” Other times, His answer is “wait,” and He wants us to keep praying for an answer. But no matter how God answers our request, we know that He loves us, that He will answer, and that His answers are always what's best. He knows what we need better than we do ourselves. When He doesn't answer our request with a “yes” right away, that's because what He has in store for us is even better.

Of course, prayer is not just asking God for things. When we pray, we can also thank God for all that He's given us, and especially for the

## In the Word (Continued)

ways He has answered our prayers in the past. Prayer is simply talking to God, like a child talking to their parent. We can pray to our loving heavenly Father anywhere, at any time, and He will hear and answer us. So let's use this gift. Let's ask, seek, and knock, going to God with all of our needs because we know He can and will take care of us!

**Note for coaches:** As you finish, let's put this lesson into practice. Give some time to take prayer requests and have the kids pray for one another. Feel free to make the lesson a little shorter so that you have extra time for prayer.

"On the Field" gives some in-game situations where today's lesson can be applied, while "Off the Field" gives examples from everyday life. Encourage them to do the things you listed during the game today.

### On the Field

- At soccer, we can pray for God to protect everyone and keep both teams free from injuries, and to help everyone do their best. It's also important to pray for God to help you honor Him in all you say and do on the soccer field.
- Pray for your teammates and coaches during the week. Ask them if there are ways you can be praying for them.
- Pray a prayer of thanks to the Lord for allowing everyone to play soccer in this league.

### Off the Field

- Have you been praying for God to do something for a long time? Keep praying! Don't give up!
- Prayer isn't just about asking God for things. Thank Him for prayers He has answered in the past, and for all the good things He has done for you.
- Pray for any friends, family members, or neighbors who aren't saved to come to know Jesus as their Savior.
- Ask the Lord to help you to follow Him and be more like Jesus.

These are some final notes/goals to accomplish this week. These are not meant to be read, but are instructions for the coach.

### The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Colossians 3:13 (NIRV), "Put up with one another. Forgive one another if you are holding something against someone. Forgive, just as the Lord forgave you." Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Luke 11:9 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. For your prayer time, consider assigning kids to pray for one of their teammates. You don't have to force players to pray if they don't feel comfortable praying out loud in front of people.