

FOR KIDS AGES 6 TO 10 · A FIRST BOOK ABOUT PRAYER

no big words required

just talk.



God likes hearing from you. Yes, you.

Talking to God is easier than you think. This book is yours. It shows you how, one small prayer at a time.

just talk.

for kids

This book belongs to

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Sunday Worship: Crossland High School, 6901 Temple Hill Rd, Camp Springs, MD 20748. Sundays at 10:00 AM · www.hiphopenation.com · Facebook @CmtyofHope · YouTube @hiphopenationtv

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For grown ups: if a child tells you someone is hurting them, believe them first. Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-422-4453, 24 hours. In a crisis, call or text 988.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR TONY

Hi. This book is yours.

Not your mom's. Not your teacher's. Yours. You can read it by yourself, or you can ask somebody you love to read it with you. Both ways are good.

This book is about talking to God. That's called praying. Some people think it's hard, or only for grown ups. Nope. If you can talk, you can pray. And God really, really likes hearing from you.

Every page has one idea, one little piece of the Bible, and a prayer you can say in one breath. Say them out loud. Change the words if you want. There's no wrong way.

I'm a pastor. That's a person whose job is helping people know God. And I'm telling you: God has been waiting to hear from you. Go ahead. Just talk.

Pastor Tony

COMMUNITY OF HOPE AME CHURCH

1

God likes hearing from you

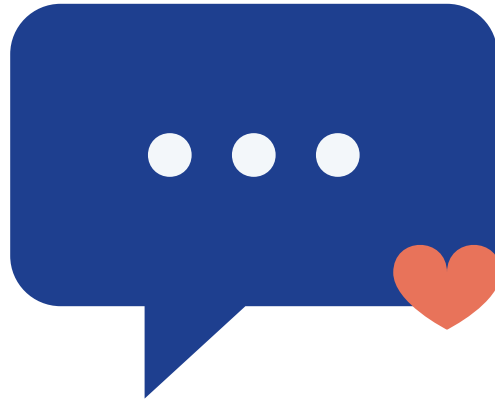
Praying is talking to God. That's it. You don't need big words. You don't need to be in church. You don't need to be good at it.

Some people think God is too busy for kids. Jesus said the opposite. When grown ups tried to shoo the children away, Jesus said, bring them here.

God made you. God knows your name. God likes it when you talk.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

MATTHEW 19:14 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

Say this out loud: "Hi, God. It's me,
----- Thank You for listening."

That counted. You just prayed.

2

You can pray anywhere

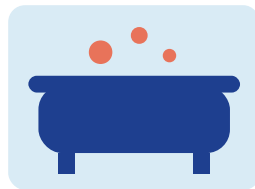
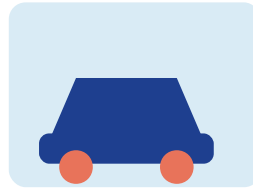
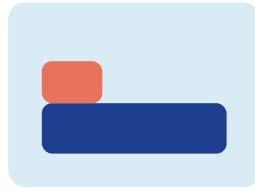
In your bed. In the car. In the bathtub. On the way to school.
At the table. On the swings.

Out loud or inside your head. With your eyes open or closed.
Standing up or lying down.

God is not far away in the sky. God is close. Wherever you
are, God is right there too.

*The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him
in truth.*

PSALM 145:18 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

Pick one place you go every day. Next time you're there, whisper: "God, You're here too."

3

Thank You

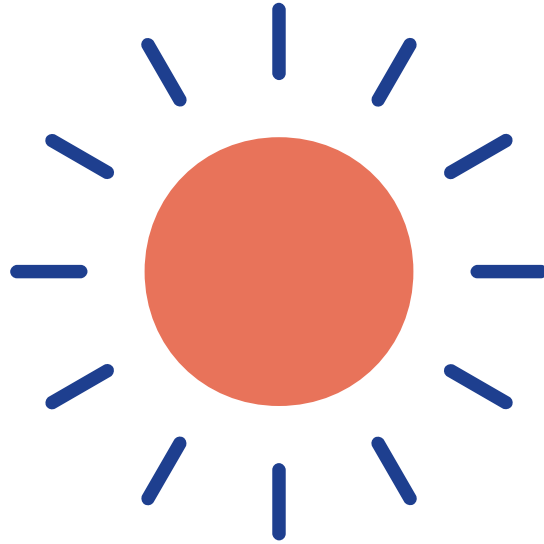
The easiest prayer in the world is two words: thank You.

Thank You for my breakfast. Thank You for my dog. Thank You for my mom. Thank You that it's Saturday. Thank You for the color blue.

Nothing is too small to say thank You for. When you say thank You a lot, you start noticing how much good stuff there is.

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

Name three things. "God, thank You for
_____, _____, and
_____."

4

I'm sorry

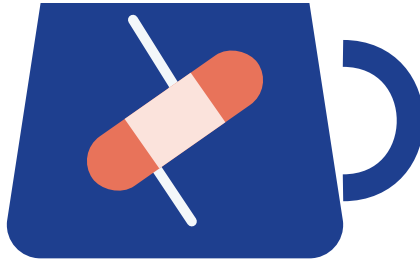
Everybody messes up. Everybody. Kids, grown ups, even pastors.

When you do something wrong, you can tell God about it. God already knows, and God still loves you. God forgives you when you ask. Every single time.

Then there's one more step. If you hurt somebody, go tell them you're sorry too. That's how you make it right.

You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.

PSALM 86:5 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

“God, I’m sorry for _____. Thank You
for forgiving me. Help me do better.”

5

Please

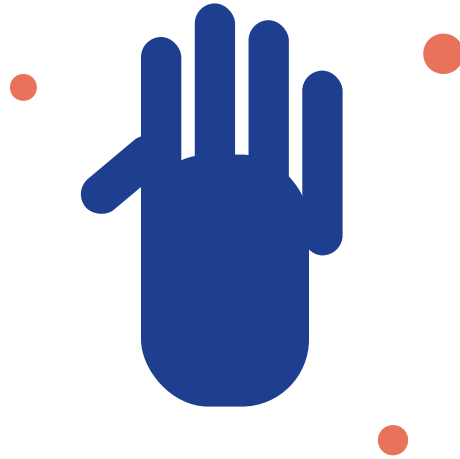
You're allowed to ask God for things. Jesus said so.

Please help me with my spelling test. Please help my tummy feel better. Please help me be brave at the dentist. Please help me make a friend.

God doesn't always say yes right away. But God always listens, and asking is never wrong.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

MATTHEW 7:7 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

“God, please help me with _____. I
know You hear me.”

6

Please, for somebody else

Praying isn't only about you. You can pray for other people too, and it really does something.

Pray for your family. Pray for your teacher. Pray for a friend who is sad. Pray for the kid who sits alone at lunch. You can even pray for somebody who was mean to you. That one is hard. It's also one of the strongest prayers there is.

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

JAMES 5:16 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

Think of one person. “God, please be with
----- today. Help them and let them
know You love them.”

7

When I'm scared or sad

Everybody gets scared. Everybody gets sad. Even brave people. Even grown ups.

When you feel that way, you can tell God. You don't have to use nice words. You can just say, "God, I'm scared." God stays right beside you.

And if somebody is hurting you, or something at home makes you scared, tell a grown up you trust. Keep telling until somebody helps. God wants you safe.

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

PSALM 56:3 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

Take a big breath. "God, I feel _____.
Please stay close to me."

8

When God says wait

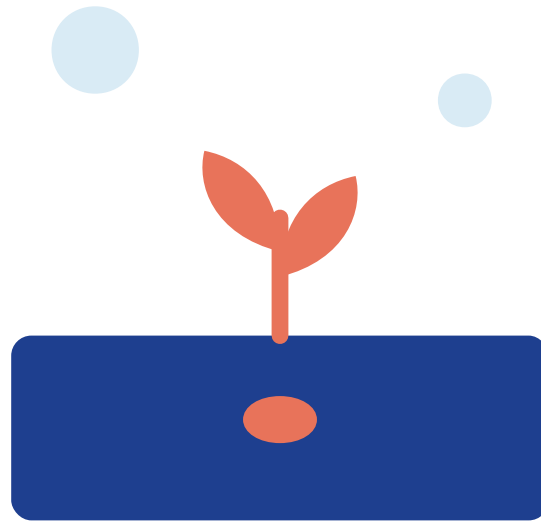
Sometimes you pray for something and it doesn't happen. You prayed for your grandma to get better. You prayed for your parents to stop fighting. You prayed really hard.

Sometimes God says yes. Sometimes God says wait. Sometimes God says no, and we don't get to know why yet.

None of those mean God stopped listening. None of them mean you did something wrong. God still loves you, and you can keep talking.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

1 PETER 5:7 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

“God, I prayed about _____ and I’m still waiting. I don’t understand. I’m going to keep talking to You anyway.”

9

I'm listening

Prayer isn't only talking. It's listening too.

A long time ago, a boy named Samuel heard someone calling his name at night. He thought it was the old priest, Eli. It was God. Eli told him what to say next time. Samuel said it, and God spoke to him.

God can speak to you too. Not usually out loud. More like a quiet, good thought that shows up when you get still.

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

1 SAMUEL 3:10 (NIV)



YOUR TURN

Sit very still and count to ten. Then say: “God, I’m listening.”

When you don't know what to say

Jesus's friends asked him, "Teach us to pray." This is what he taught them. People have been saying it for two thousand years. You can say it too.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

MATTHEW 6:9-13 (NIV)

Some big words in there. Hallowed means holy and special. Daily bread means what we need today. Debts means the wrong things we've done. Say it slowly, one line at a time. It gets easier every time.

PRAYERS YOU CAN BORROW

Say these anytime

WHEN I WAKE UP

God, thank You for today. Help me be kind. Stay with me all day. Amen.

BEFORE I EAT

God, thank You for this food and for the people who made it. Amen.

WHEN I GO TO BED

God, thank You for today. I'm sorry for the wrong things I did. Please keep my family safe tonight. Amen.

WHEN I'M SCARED

God, I'm scared. You said You're close. Please help me feel it. Amen.

WHEN I DID SOMETHING WRONG

God, I messed up. I'm sorry. Thank You for forgiving me. Help me make it right. Amen.

FOR MY FAMILY

God, please take care of everybody in my family, the ones in my house and the ones far away. Amen.

FOR A FRIEND

God, my friend _____ needs You today. Please be with them. Amen.

WHEN I WANT TO BE JESUS'S FRIEND

Jesus, I believe You love me. I want to be Your friend and follow You. Please come into my life. Amen.

If you said that last one and meant it, tell your grown up. That's a big day, and it's worth celebrating.

SEVEN DAYS OF TALKING TO GOD

One little prayer a day

Check the box when you're done. Miss a day? No problem. Just pick up where you left off.

- ☐ **DAY 1** Say hi to God and tell God your name.
- ☐ **DAY 2** Say thank You for three things.
- ☐ **DAY 3** Tell God one thing you're sorry for.
- ☐ **DAY 4** Ask God for help with one thing.
- ☐ **DAY 5** Pray for one other person by name.
- ☐ **DAY 6** Tell God how you're feeling today.
- ☐ **DAY 7** Sit still and listen for ten seconds.

Finished all seven? Start over. You're not finishing a chart. You're making a friend.

YOU'RE INVITED

Come see us

Praying at home is wonderful. Praying with other people is something else. At Community of Hope, kids are not in the way. They lead prayer on Sundays. They get cheered for their report cards. They belong.

Community of Hope AME Church started in 2006 in a nightclub with eight people, because we believe church should meet people where they actually live. We don't care how you come. We only care about the way you leave.

PULL UP SUNDAY

Sundays at 10:00 AM · Crossland High School · 6901 Temple Hill Rd, Camp Springs, MD 20748

NOT NEAR US?

Not near us? Watch on YouTube @hiphopenationtv · Facebook @CmtyofHope · www.hiphopenation.com

NEED PRAYER?

Need prayer for your family? info@hiphopenation.com · 240-273-9115

We'll save you a seat. A kid sized one.

MY OWN PRAYERS

Write or draw one here

Prayers can be pictures too. Draw something you want to tell God about, or write your own words.

where everyone has a chance.

*A first book about prayer, written just for
kids.*

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