

Family Prayer Time

Supplies

-Candle 

-Bible 

-Lighter 

-Piece of wood/cardboard 

Scripture: Matthew 7:7-8, NRSV

“Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened!”

Inviting God

Gather as a family, in a circle, and light a candle as a symbolic way of welcoming God to join you in your time together. Sit quietly for a few seconds, so that your family has an opportunity to relax their body, mind, and spirit.

Creating Space

Say out loud: If there is anything weighing on our minds and making it difficult to focus, let us share it with each other and God and let it go. (Enter a quiet time with your family. Providing them the space to share what is on their mind. You might go first and set the example by sharing anything that is weighing on your own mind).

Scripture Reading

Read aloud Matthew 7:7-8. Take turns reading the Scripture, have a different family member read the Scripture passage.

Say out Loud: In our Scripture, Jesus is sitting on a hill with lots of people sitting around him, who are listening and learning from him. One of the things he tells the people is that prayer is like knocking on God's door and waiting for God to answer!

Time of family prayer

Pass around a piece of wood (or cardboard) and invite your child to knock on it. As they knock on the wood, invite them to pray for something. After praying, pass the cardboard to the next family member. (You can begin first, for example... knock on the wood and say, God I am thankful for my time with my family. If they are having trouble coming up with things to pray for, mention praying for our world, church, friends, and family)

After passing around the wood, say out loud - Jesus said that you can knock on the door as many times as you want, because God loves to hear you pray!

Pray aloud together:

God, we have spent time reflecting on your Holy Word,
We have spent time praying together,
Through our time together, we have experienced you,
As we end our time together, help us to love one another as you
love us.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Blessing One Another

Invite family members to bless one another. Take the hands of another person, look him or her in the eyes, and say "I love you and I ask God to bless you."