

Here is a simple guide to help your family pray together.



Pray for **FAMILY MEMBERS.**



Pray for your **NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS.**



Pray for **OUR CHURCH.**



Pray for **OUR MISSIONARIES.**



Pray for **PEOPLE WE KNOW WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS.**



Pray for **OUR GOVERNMENT AND LEADERS.**



Pray for **OTHER CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD**—especially those who are treated badly because they are followers of Jesus.

For questions, contact:

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Church and Family Partnering Together



Today's Big Idea

Peter Healed a Beggar
Read about it: Acts 3:1-10; 4:5-31



The Main Point

In Jesus' name, Peter healed a man who could not walk.



What Did We Learn?

- ▶ Peter and John saw a man who could not walk.
- ▶ The man asked for money, but Peter gave him something better.
- ▶ In the name of Jesus, Peter healed a man who could not walk.
- ▶ Peter and John refused to stop talking about Jesus.

TODAY'S CHRIST CONNECTION

After Jesus returned to heaven, the Holy Spirit gave the disciples power to begin working. With the power of Jesus' name, Peter healed a man who was lame. Not even the religious leaders could stop Jesus' followers from sharing the good news about Jesus.



LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

Open your Bible to Acts 6:8–7:60 and read together as a family about when Stephen was not afraid to die so that others would hear about Jesus. Or read the children's version of the passage below.

One of Jesus' followers was named Stephen. One day, some Jews came and began to argue with Stephen. The Holy Spirit helped Stephen speak with wisdom.

The Jews decided to lie about Stephen. The people dragged Stephen to the Jewish court.

Stephen began to preach about Jesus. He started by reminding the Jews about Abraham. He reminded them about Joseph and Moses. When God's people lived in Egypt, God called Moses to rescue His people from Pharaoh. Moses led God's people away from Egypt, but they turned against Moses and against God.

God did not give up on His people, though. He was working out a plan.

Stephen told them these stories to explain that Jesus was the Messiah God had promised! But just like their ancestors rejected and killed the prophets in the Old Testament, these Jewish leaders had rejected Jesus and murdered Him!

Stephen's words made the Jewish leaders so angry! Stephen was filled with the Holy Spirit, and he looked up into heaven. Stephen saw Jesus standing there.

The Jewish leaders screamed at the top of their lungs. They threw Stephen out of the city and began to throw stones at him. As they were stoning him, Stephen called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then Stephen knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" After saying this, Stephen died.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- ▶ What do you think Stephen valued most?
- ▶ What do you value most?
- ▶ How can we show we value Jesus in our lives?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Talk to your kids about the persecuted church and research places where it is worst. Take time to pray for those places.
- ▶ Take your family to skip rocks into water. Talk about what it means to love your enemies.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Stephen was killed because he was a Christian. Jesus was crucified, and He told His followers that they would be persecuted—hated, hurt, or even killed—for loving Him. Jesus also said that those who suffer for Him would be blessed. (Matthew 5:11) We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven.

BIBLE READING THROUGH THE WEEK

Take time this week to read the Bible together as a family. Breakfast, dinner, or bedtime—you choose when and where.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Acts 6:8–15	Acts 7:1–16	Acts 7:17–40	Acts 7:41–53	Acts 7:54–60

As you read, ask these questions:

- ▶ What is God teaching us?
- ▶ What does this show us about who God is?
- ▶ What do we need to ask God's help for to change?
- ▶ How would you share this with a friend?

UNIT MEMORY VERSE

It is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose. —Philippians 2:13