

PRAY

God Story:

Dear Timothy | 1 Timothy 1-3

Big Idea:

Even though we're young, we can pray for everyone.

Key Verse:

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers in what you say and in how you live. Also set an example in how you love and in what you believe. | 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIRV)

Leader Tip:

Emphasize that we can make a huge difference through prayer—no matter how old we are!

Ms My Story

- 1. Conversation Starter** **2 minutes**
Guide the discussion to encourage the kids to think about who's a good friend and listener, who cares about them, and who wants to help them.
- 2. Intro Activity** **5 minutes**
Toss around a beach ball labelled with descriptions of people to use as prompts to think of people to pray for.

Gs God Story Ls Life Story

- 3. Weekly Video** **12 minutes**
The video includes host, God Story, Life Story, and Key Verse segments.

Ms My Story

- 4. Small Group Activity** **12 minutes ***
Review the video teaching and then create daily prayer spinners.
- 5. Key Verse Activity** **8 minutes**
Learn this month's Key Verse by putting the mixed-up parts in order.

Os Our Story

- 6. Dismissal**
Connect with parents and give them the take-home materials.

* Extendable activity



1. CONVERSATION STARTER

Supplies:

- None

Leader Tips:

- The goal is to get the kids thinking about someone who's a good friend and listener, who cares about them, and who wants to help them.
- It may be easier for some kids to think of things they do not like about talking to certain people (e.g., my friend never listens to me). This can work, too. Be sure to explain how God is the opposite of these negative attributes.
- The Conversation Starter is a great way to make everyone feel welcome and build community! Use it to set the tone for your group's time together.

Instructions:

- As the kids arrive, welcome them and gather everyone in a group.
- Ask:
 - Who's your favourite person to talk with?
 - What do you like about talking with this person?
 - Who do you think likes talking with you?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Explain that God wants us to talk to him every day. We call this prayer. God's waiting for each of us to talk to him, no matter how old we are!
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Even though we're young, we can pray for everyone.**

2. INTRO ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Beach ball labelled: neighbour, friend, family member, someone at church, someone in another country, someone famous

Leader Tips:

- The ideal group size for this activity is eight or fewer people. Groups with more kids will get multiple beach balls.
- Be prepared to help anyone who cannot read the words by offering discretely to read aloud for them.
- Allow kids to pass on their turn if they wish. This is a warm-up activity and some of them may need time to ease in.

Instructions:

- Gather everyone to stand in a large circle.
- Let the kids know that this game will get them thinking about people they can pray for.
- Gently toss the ball to someone.
- Direct them to look at the label that's facing them on the ball and name a real person who meets that description.
- Briefly discuss how to pray for that person, engaging the group as much as possible. For example, if someone names a pro hockey player, you could ask the kids for ideas about what to pray for, such as that they know God or that they have good health.
- Guide the person with the ball to toss it gently to someone else, who will name another real person.
- Continue until everyone gets at least one turn.
- To wrap up, pray for each of the people the kids named.



3. WEEKLY VIDEO

Supplies:

- Video file

Leader Tip:

- Sit with the kids and encourage them to focus on the video as necessary.

Instructions:

- a. Play the video. It contains:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Dear Timothy | 1 Timothy 1-3)
 - Life Story (A few young friends show how they pray and care for others.)

Ms My Story

4. SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Scrap paper
- Pen
- Pre-cut paper plates
- Spinner activity pages
- Brads
- Markers

Leader Tips:

- Write a list of people to pray for on a piece of scrap paper, which the kids may copy from if needed.
- These spinners aren't meant to whirl around quickly. Instead, the plates rotate to reveal days of the week.
- Make sure everyone's names are on their spinners.

Instructions:

- Gather your small group to sit together.
- Discuss:
 - What was the God Story about in today's video?
 - What was the Life Story about?
 - How would you describe prayer to someone who was unfamiliar with it?
 - What should we say when we pray?
 - Who is allowed to pray?
- Emphasize that prayer is simply talking to God. He wants to hear from all of us all the time! We can tell God how awesome he is, thank him for what he's given us, pray for other people, and ask that we'll be able to love others well.
- Give each person a paper plate, an activity page, and a brad.
- Place the markers where everyone can reach them.
- Direct the kids to write the name or draw a picture of a different person in each section (day of the week) of the circle on the page.
- Instruct them to write "I can pray for everyone" on their plate. Help with spelling as needed.
- Help everyone attach their plate to their page using a brad.

- Demonstrate how to rotate the plate to reveal each section of the circle (see sample craft below).
- As the kids finish assembling their spinners, encourage them to colour and decorate their crafts.
- If time permits, invite them to share what they made with the rest of the group.
- Encourage everyone to use their prayer spinners in the week ahead to remind them to pray for the people they named.



5. KEY VERSE ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Key Verse sign
- Wall-safe tape
- Strips of paper with parts of the Key Verse printed on them
- Masking tape
- (Optional) Timer

Before the Activity:

- Hang the Key Verse sign where everyone can see it.
- Place a couple loops of tape on the back of each part of the Key Verse.

Leader Tips:

- If you have a large group of kids, this activity could also be done with the strips of paper placed on the floor or on a table instead of taped to the kids. If your group is smaller, place multiple parts on one or more kids.
- To make the activity more challenging, time the kids to see how quickly they can place the verse in order.

Instructions:

- Review this month's Key Verse (1 Timothy 4:12) together.
- Stick the parts of the verse onto different people's backs.
- Mix up everyone!
- Ask for a volunteer to put the kids in order.
- Guide them to read the completed verse out loud.
- Take turns until everyone has had a chance to put the verse in order.

Os Our Story

6. DISMISSAL

Supplies:

- Kids' crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards

Before Dismissal:

- Place any crafts and take-home materials where everyone can access them easily.

Leader Tip:

- Take a moment to share with parents about their kids' experiences. Many parents will only hear about the morning from you.

Instructions:

- Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids.
- Give everyone Take-Home and Key Verse cards.
- Remind them to take any crafts.
- Make sure the security numbers match before the kids leave with their parents.