



The Best Friend  
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## P<sub>review</sub>

We are going to be learning about building a friendship with Jesus through prayer.

## P<sub>raise</sub>

Have the kids pair off and introduce themselves to each other...but five years in the past (*if they are 14 then they introduce themselves as if they were 9*)...give them about 2-3 minutes to go back and forth. Now ask them to introduce themselves 5 years in the future. It's fun to hear what plans they have and really opens up conversations.

## P<sub>arable</sub>

Ask the group:

- Who has a really good friend, someone that you could tell anything to?
- How often do you talk to each other?
- Then ask, what would happen if you stopped talking to your friend...what would happen to your friendship?

## P<sub>resent</sub>

Building a relationship with Jesus works the same way that it works with our friends. (The more you talk with someone the stronger your friendship grows, the less you talk with someone the weaker your friendship grows)

The second part of **Proverbs 15:8** says that "*the prayer of the upright is his delight*" which means that every time we pray to Him...He loves it as much as you love talking to your friends. He delights in hearing and talking to us.

Now that we know that Jesus loves hearing us when we talk to him, What and how should we pray? Well a good question to think about is: What do you talk about when you are with your friends? Do you always talk about just the important things that happen in your life or do you talk about everything? (*wait for some responses*)



We talk to our friends about everything, from what happened this morning to what we ate that tasted funny. We also talk about what is bothering us, who made us mad, what we what to do in life. Read **Ephesians 3:20** *from your Bible*. Here the bible tells us that Jesus is able to do anything. When you pray and ask Him to do something for you, it doesn't matter how big or small the problem is, **HE CAN HANDLE IT!** Just as you would do anything for your friend, Jesus will do anything for you. We just have to ask.

**Remember:**

The more time you spend in prayer the more you'll discover how to communicate to Him and Jesus truly is the best friend.

**P** *ractice*

Ask everyone to set a goal of praying 5-10 minutes **everyday** at a certain time they know will be free. (*Could be when they get up in the morning or right before they go to bed, just have them pick a time*)

- Have them set an alarm on their phone for the time they picked for prayer.
- Increase your prayer length over time.
- Make a checklist of the days of the week, and check off that day when you have finished your prayer time.

You will be amazed on how fast you develop a habit of praying everyday. Remember, the more you pray the easier it becomes.

**P** *ray*

Lets pray right now, but when you pray talk to him as your friend. If you need help in a subject at school, ask God, very specifically, to help you with that particular subject. If your family needs something ask Jesus for it. Or if you just want to say that you love Him and thank him for his blessings in your life, let Him know.

**P** *lus*

The next time you talk to your close friend, think of how this friendship came about, and apply it in building a friendship with Jesus.