



Gospel Light®

HOME DISCUSSION GUIDE
for Elementary

SUMMER C
Lesson 7

Before You Ask

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

Philippians 4:6

My kids have asked me, “If God always knows what we want before we ask Him, why do we pray?” I tell them it’s about the difference between talking to a person and talking to a vending machine. God is not a like a vending machine where we put in our request and push the prayer button to get what we want. God is a Person. When I pray, I am brought into agreement with what He wants! Oswald Chambers said, “The point of prayer is not to get answers from God, but to have perfect and complete oneness with Him. If we pray only because we want answers, we will become irritated and angry with God We are not here to prove that God answers prayer, but to be living trophies of God’s grace.” Sometimes when we ask for something, like healing, God heals us. Sometimes He doesn’t. Praying is what helps us to bring our desires in agreement with His desires and to line us up with what He is doing in our lives.

Try This:

Together at bedtime, we might pray the Lord’s Prayer together and talk about what one or two of those words mean and how they apply to us. Also, as we read the Bible together, we write down the references for other prayers we come across. There are many in the Psalms and in the New Testament books by Paul. Sometimes we read those aloud to make those our prayers as well. Praying Scripture is a powerful way to help kids (and us) learn to pray!