

Lesson 78 - God Answers Prayers

Aim

- * to learn that if you ask, God will answer your prayers because He loves you.
- * To learn that if you want anything you must first ask.

Materials

- * Picture cards
- * Card, scissors, glue, thread, coloured pencils
- * Story - A Good Day for Becky
- * Worksheet
- * A prayer to recite

Lesson Outline

1. Jesus Teaches about Prayer
2. A Good Day for Becky
3. Questions about the story
4. God answers prayers
5. Activities - recite a prayer, make a mobile, worksheet, role play Jesus' words
6. Review the aims
7. Prayer

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1) Jesus Teaches about Prayer

Jesus told us what we should do if we want God to help us.

Ask and it will be given to you;
seek and you will find;
knock and the door will be opened to you.

ASK AND RECEIVE



Ask



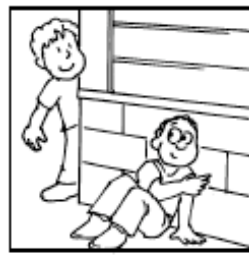
Receive

Jesus said that if we want to receive anything we have to ask for it. Have a bowl of cut fruit in front of the children. Don't offer it unless the children ask. Only give it to those who ask. Look at the pictures. We should always ask using the word please. What could you ask for right now?

SEEK AND FIND



Search



Find

Jesus also said that if you seek or search for something hard enough you will find it. Look at the picture. In a game of hide and seek you will find the person hiding, if you keep searching. Hide some objects in the room for the children to find. Examples: pencils, coins, plastic cups, balloons,

KNOCK AND OPEN



Knock



Opened

Jesus also said that if you knock on someone's door they will answer. Look at the picture. If you don't knock the person inside won't know you are there. If you really want something you have to make effort and God will help you. Today's story is about what happened when a girl asked God to help

2) A Good Day for Becky

* Becky doesn't want to go to the nursery, because of a new boy, called Mike, who spoils their games. She only want to play with her best friends. Becky's mother thinks he might not make trouble if she lets him play with her. ' She tells Becky to ask God to help, so that she can have a good time and to find a way to include Mike in her play. She does pray and the day goes very well. In fact, she asks her mother if she can invite the new boy to play sometimes in their home.

3) Questions about the story

- * Why didn't Becky want to go to the nursery that day? - *because Mike was unkind*
- * Mother gave Becky an idea of what to do that day. What was her idea? - *invite Mike to be part of their play*
- * What did Mother and Becky do before they left home? - *pray*
- * Becky did invite Mike to play doll house with the girls. How do you think Mike felt about being included? - *happy*
- * How did he act that day? - *kind, he shared the banana; he didn't tease the girls*
- * Did the day go better for Becky than she had thought it would? - *yes, because they all played happily, and got along together*
- * Do you think God helped Becky? - *yes*
- * Why did God help? - *Becky asked for help*

4) God Answers Prayers

Because Becky asked for help, God answered her prayer. When we pray God listens to us. If we want to help someone God will help. If we need help with something, God will help us. Jesus said that if we ask, God will answer our prayers because He loves us. What kind of things could you ask God for?

- If someone in your nursery spoils things for others, ask God to help
- Ask God to help you be a good friend to others
- Ask God to help you to be a good boy or girl and do as your parents say
- Ask God what you can do to help your mummy and daddy
- Pray that your brothers and sisters can care for each other

5) Activities

Recite a prayer

God in heaven hear my prayer,
keep me in thy loving care.
Be my guide in all I do,
Bless all those who love me too.

Make a mobile of Jesus words

Colour the pictures. Paste the shapes on to card and cut them out. Attach thread and hang as a mobile to remind the children of Jesus' words.

Worksheet

Find 10 differences between the pictures

Role-play Jesus' words

Practise different situations in which the children ask, seek and knock.

4) Review the Aim

to learn that we can talk to God anytime

5) Prayer

Ask children to say what we did today in Sunday School then say a prayer to tell God

A Good Day for Becky



Becky felt grumbly and cross. "I don't want to go to the nursery today," she said at breakfast.

"You don't?" Mother asked. "But you always have fun with Tracy and Terri. ' ,

"I know. But now there's another boy. His name is Mike. He's new and we don't like to play with him. Tracy and Terri and I just play by ourselves like we always do and he comes over and knocks things down and takes things away. We don't like that."

Mother put a glass of orange juice beside Becky's plate. "Well, I'm sure you don't like Mike doing things like that. Do you suppose that maybe he wishes you'd invite him to play with you?"

"I don't know," said Becky between bites of toast. "We've never asked. But I wish I didn't have to go today. I don't think I'll have a very good time with Mike there. He spoils things."

"I know what we can do," Mother suggested. "Before I take you to nursery, why don't we pray and ask God to help you today. I think God can help you have a good time and I think He can help you find a way to include Mike in your play. Maybe he wouldn't make trouble if you let him play with you. ' ,

Becky finished breakfast. She brushed her teeth and combed her hair. Then it was time to go.

"Okay, now let's pray," her mother said. They bowed their heads and Mother prayed. "Dear God, thank You for the friends that Becky has. Thank You for the good times she and Tracy and Terri have had all these months together at the nursery. But now Becky needs You to help her today. Help the girls find a way to invite Mike to play with them. Help Becky be a good friend to everyone, and give her a happy day. Amen.

Soon Becky was at the nursery. Terri and Tracy were already there. Mike would come later. "Come on, Becky, let's play with the doll house." Tracy led the way to the table where the red-roofed doll house waited.

The three little girls rearranged the furniture. They tucked the tiny dolls into their tiny beds. Mike came just as they were spreading the little rugs on the doll house floor.

Becky remembered what her mother had prayed. And then she remembered, too, the Bible verse that says, "A friend loves at all times." She wasn't sure she wanted to be Mike's friend, though. But almost before she knew it, Becky heard herself say, "Here, Mike, get the car and drive my baby home. I have to work to clean up our house today. ' ,

Mike quickly picked up the little red car and pretended to drive the tiny doll to Becky's house. He pretended to drive the dolly back. Then he helped move the furniture again and to sit the doll at the table loaded with pretend food.

Time went by fast, and soon their teacher, Mrs. Cloud, was saying, "It's time for lunch, kids! " Mike was at the table first. Becky saw the orange slice on her plate. "I don't like oranges very much. Do you want mine, Mike?" she asked. Mike gladly took the orange slice and gave Becky some of his banana in exchange.

After lunch and rest time the girls played toss-a-ring with Mike. They shared the big bright colored rings that were tossed onto the fat red stick. Later, when the girls decided to use the coloring books and crayons, Mike went to the other room to help Mrs. Cloud. Becky found a picture of a man in an airplane. "Come on, Mike, here's a picture you'd like to color, " she called.

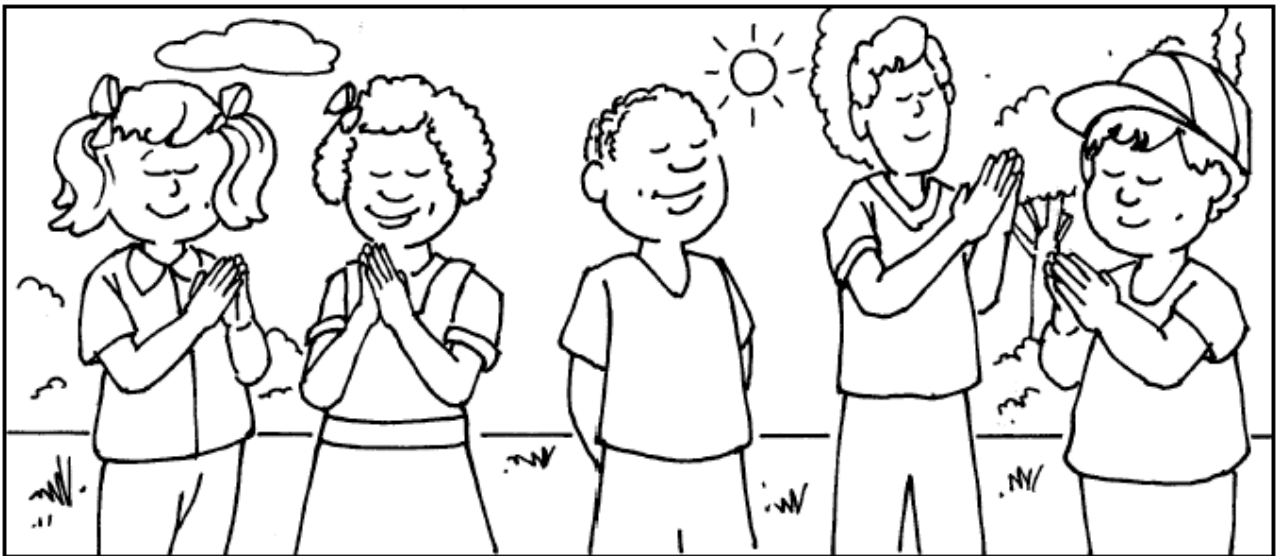
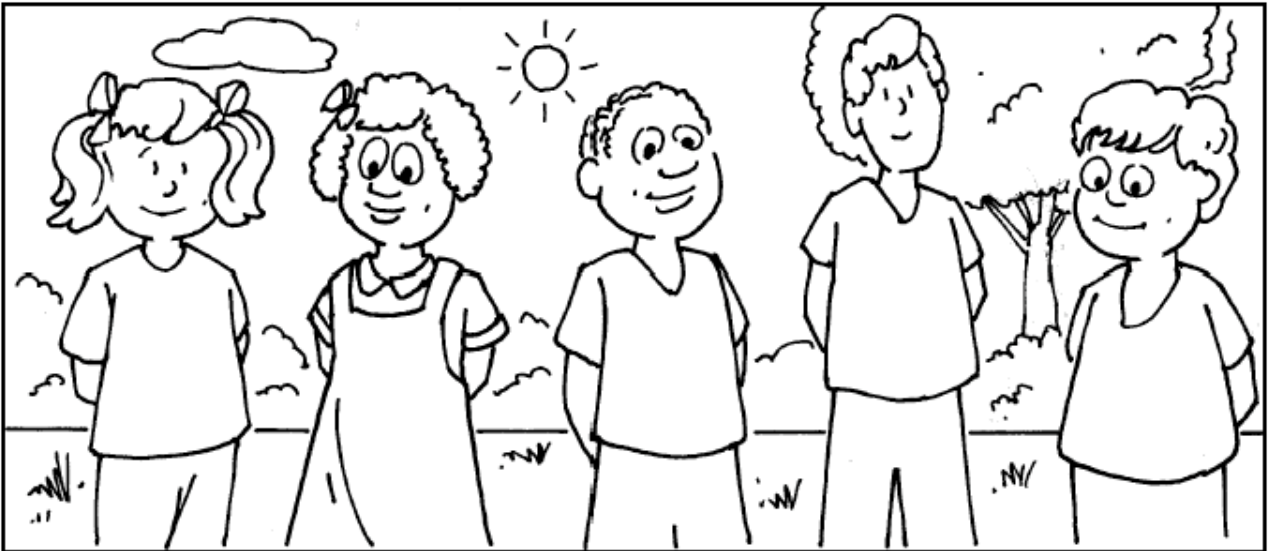
The afternoon hours hurried along and soon it was time to go home. Becky's mother came to the door. "Ready, Becky?" she asked.

Becky smiled brightly. "See my picture I colored? We've had a good time today. Mike and Tracy and Terri and I have played dolls and games, and everything. Can Mike come over sometime to our house to play?"

Her mother looked happy. She could tell that God had answered their morning prayer. Becky had been a good friend. It had really been a good day for Becky.

God Answers Prayers

Circle 10 things different in the bottom picture.



God Answers Prayers



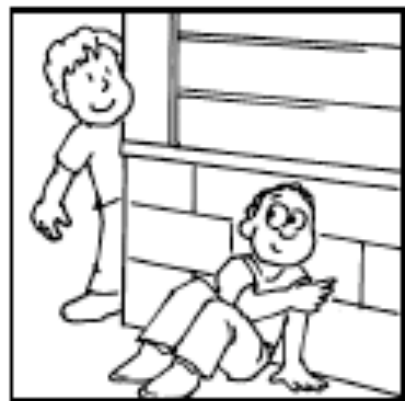
Ask



Receive



seek



find



knock



open



Heavenly Father,
Help me to be a
friend to Mike

