

JEHOSHAPHAT & PRAYER

“...We can cry out to you to save us, and you will hear us and rescue us.”

2 Chronicles 20:9

Today's story is about a king from long ago, in the Bible. He was in a real tough situation. His name was Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat is chilling as king, maybe sipping a fruity cocktail or eating grapes. He was the big cheese, the boss man. Everything was good in the kingdom until one day...

“...the armies of the Moabites, Ammonites, and some of the Meunites declared war on Jehoshaphat. Messengers came and told Jehoshaphat, “A vast army is marching against you....” (2 Chronicles 20:1-2)

The Moabites, the Ammonites and the Meunites declared war to King Jehoshaphat. But, the main thing from this verse is that Jehoshaphat was in some trouble. Did you catch that? Not just one army or even two. Three whole armies were coming to fight him! Yikes!

What do you think Jehoshaphat did when he heard this awful news? What would YOU do? Think about it. What do you do when things go wrong? How do you act when a friend is mean to you or when someone in your family is sick? The Bible says he was really scared, but he didn't let that get in the way. Instead, he prayed such a great prayer, that it's our verse this week:

“...We can cry out to you to save us, and you will hear us and rescue us.” (2 Chronicles 20:9)

Jehoshaphat knew that God was the only hope for his kingdom. There was no way they could defeat three armies by themselves. So, they prayed. Wanna guess what happened after Jehoshaphat and the people prayed? God answered.

Now, we know that we have to pray to God, but how does God want us to pray?

It's easy, just do these 3 things:

1. Praise God
2. Pray for others
3. Pray for you

Did you notice the order? Praise God first. It helps us remember that He is our only real help. Then, pray for other people. It's good for us to look outward and to think about the needs of our friends before our own. Then, ask God to help us with whatever we're going through. Remember, God hears and answers our prayers. God wants to help you in every situation. Do what King Jeho did. PRAY.

Discussion Questions

1. What's the hardest thing you've ever had to do? (ex. learn to read, math, play an instrument)
How did you get through it?
2. What do you do when you are in trouble or when someone makes fun of you?
3. How does God want us to pray?
4. Read Philippians 4:6-7. Why don't we need to worry when we pray? Who will help us when we're scared? Why should we tell God what we're thankful for?

JEHOSHAPHAT ACTIVITIES

Watch this week's lesson video as a family (on the Church in Your PJ's webpage) and fill in the blanks.

1. The _____, the _____ and the _____ declared war to King Jehoshaphat.
2. Jehoshaphat _____ to God when in trouble.
3. Jehoshaphat knew that _____ was the only hope for his kingdom.
4. God wants to help you in _____ situation.

Memorize this week's Bible verse: "We can cry out to you to save us, and you will hear us and rescue us." - 2 Chronicles 20:9

Word Game

Set a timer for 2 minutes and try individually or as a family to see how many words you can make from King Jehoshaphat.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

Answer Key: 1. Moabites, Ammonites, Meunites 2. Pray 3. God 4. Every

FAMILY CRAFT

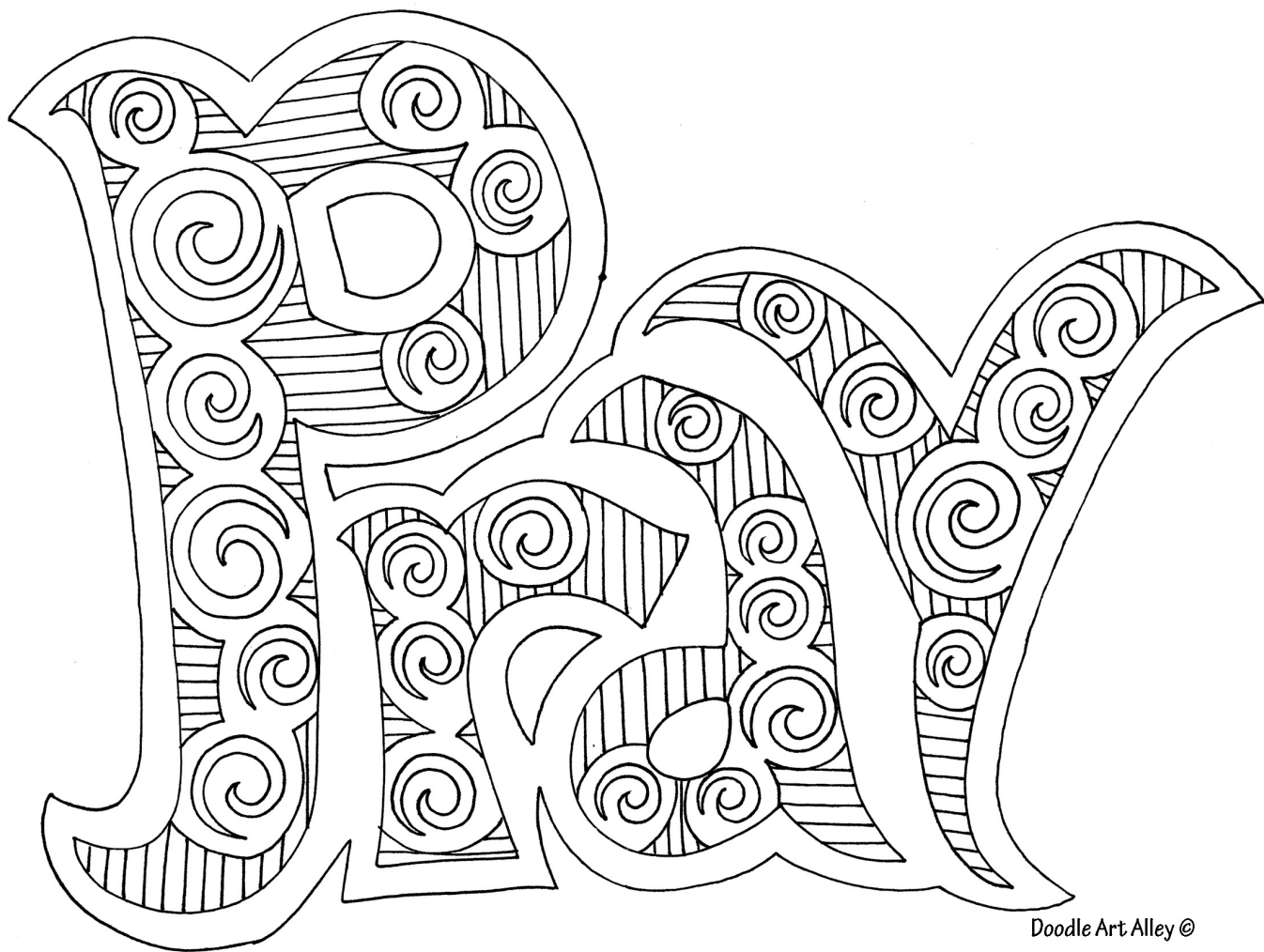
Prayer Journal

This craft will help kids pray for specific people in their lives. Take a piece of construction paper and put a piece of white paper on top of it (this will serve as the page to write on the inside of the journal). Fold the construction paper in half, width wise (with white paper inside). Have each child line up their thumb with the folded side of paper, with other fingers together (see image below) and trace their hand. Cut out the handprint, but not along the fold. Then, staple along the fold.

You have created a mini journal! Open up the journal and have kids write down the names, or draw pictures, of people they want to pray for and even specific needs they are praying about. Have them decorate the outside of the journal and write the title, "My Prayer Journal".

Supplies needed:

- construction paper
- printer paper
- markers/crayons
- stapler
- scissors
- pencil for tracing



Doodle Art Alley ©