

WEEK 3: The Early Church Prayed

Big Idea: We are the church together.

HANGOUT

1. Discuss:
 - Who's your favourite person to talk to?
 - What do you love to talk about the most?
 - Who do we talk to when we pray? (God!)
 - What can we pray about? (anything)
 - Where can we pray? (anywhere)
 - Does God always hear our prayers? (yes!)
2. Give everyone some crayons and paper. Encourage the children to draw a picture of something or someone they'd like to pray for. Help them write their names on their pictures.
3. Collect the drawings to use during Huddle time.

HEAR

4. Explain that Jesus' disciples loved to pray and talk to God together! In today's God Story, Peter and John pray with many other believers. They ask God to make them bold to share about Jesus.
5. Read about the early church (from Acts 4:1-4, 23-31) in a children's Bible.
6. Ask: What does it mean to be bold? (unafraid, brave, confident, sure)
7. Direct everyone to strike a bold pose. Demonstrate by standing confidently with your hands on your hips.
8. Discuss: What do we know about Jesus that we could share boldly with our friends? (e.g., Jesus is Lord, Jesus loves everyone, Jesus is alive, Jesus is God, Jesus rescues us)

HUDDLE

9. Hand out the children's prayer request drawings that they created earlier.
10. Let everyone know that while it's great to talk to God quietly by ourselves, we can also pray as a group because **we are the church together**.
11. Encourage the children to take turns praying out loud for the person or thing they drew. If needed, pray on their behalf. To wrap up, thank God for each child (by name if possible), and pray that he would give everyone boldness to share about Jesus this week!