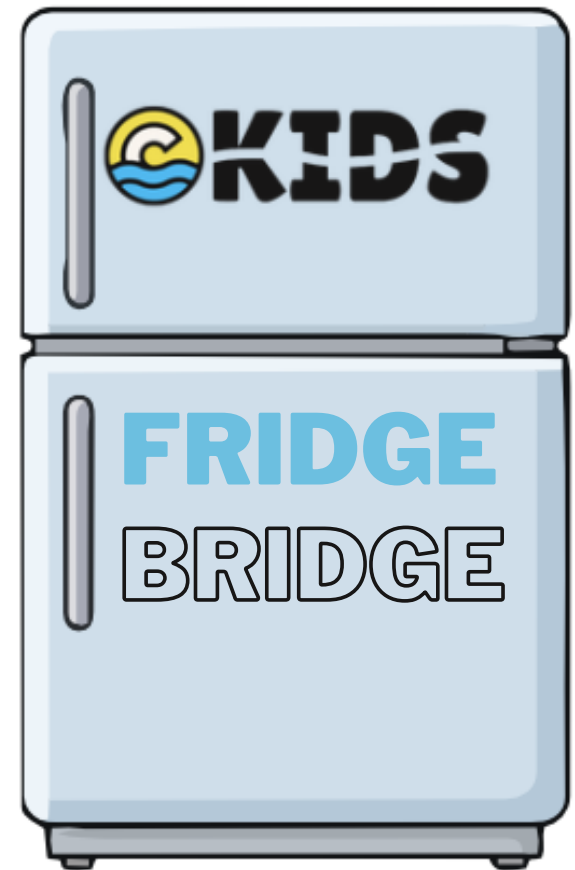


This month we'll be focusing on the gift of prayer. We'll begin by learning that prayer is simply talking to God, just like we talk to someone we love and trust. We'll explore how we can pray. We'll look at Jesus' own prayer life and how He taught his disciples to pray, and discover that listening to God is just as important as speaking to Him. Our hope is that each child will grow in their understanding that they can talk to God anytime, anywhere, and about anything!

We encourage you to continue the conversation at home by making prayer a regular part of your family's day. Take time to pray together, invite your child share what they would like to talk to God about, and remind them that they can come to God anytime and about anything. As you pray, encourage them to not only talk to God but also take quiet moments to listen. Remind them that God loves them and wants to have a relationship with them.



August 2026

**Theme:
Prayer**

**August 9 - Water
GamesDay
August 30 - Family
Fusion**

August 2

Big Idea: Intro to Prayer

Luke 11:1

Prayer is simply talking to God. We can talk to Him about our worries, joys, questions, fears, and everything between. Jesus made prayer an important part of His life, and His disciples noticed and wanted to learn how to pray too. We may sometimes wonder if we're saying the right words or praying the "right" way, but God isn't looking for perfect prayers - He wants us to come to Him honestly. We can talk to God anytime, anywhere, knowing that He loves us and wants to hear from us.

This week encourage your child to talk to God about one thing they are thankful for, one thing they are worried about, and one thing they would like to ask God.

August 9

Water Games Day!!



Memory Verse - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Elementary:

Rejoice always, Pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances: for this is the will for you in Christ Jesus.

Toddlers & Preschool:

Rejoice always, Pray continually.

Make it Fun!!!

- **Beach Ball Game:** Write prompts on a beach ball. Wherever a child's thumb lands when they catch it determines how they say the verse. (loud, quiet, hop, clap each word)
- **Scavenger Hunt:** Hide words or phrases from the verse around the room. Kids find them and put the verse in order.
- **Verse Charades:** Act out the meaning of key words or phrases, then recite the verse
- **Pray it:** Turn the verse into an active prayer
- **Comic Strip:** Draw the verse as a series of comic panels.
- **Make up a tune:** Sing the verse to the melody of a familiar song.

August 16

Big Idea: Ways to Pray

Matthew 6:9-13

Jesus gave His disciples a pattern for prayer to help them understand how to talk with God. We can praise God for who he is, ask Him for what we need, tell Him when we are sorry, forgive others, and ask for His help and guidance. Prayer isn't about saying the perfect words - it's about growing closer to God and trusting Him with very part of our

This week, take time as a family to pray together using the Lord's prayer as a guide, thanking God for who He is and sharing with Him what is on your hearts.

August 23

Big Idea: Listening to Jesus

John 10:27

Prayer is a conversation with God. We can talk to Jesus about what is on our hearts, but we can also spend quiet time listening for His guidance. Jesus said, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me"

As we spend time praying, reading the Bible, and learning more about Jesus, we can become better at recognizing His voice and following His lead.

This week, take a few quiet moments as a family to pray, then pause and ask Jesus to help you listen and understand his guidance.