



PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5th grade.

March 21, 2021 – Praying in the Garden (Luke 22:39-46)

Prepare to Wonder

Faith Word: Remember

After Jesus and his friends, the disciples, shared the Passover meal, Jesus went to a garden on the Mount of Olives, called Gethsemane, to pray. Jesus often went alone to pray and may have gone to a place in the garden he had been before. This time, he took a few of his friends with him and asked them to stay awake. Jesus then went a little ways away to pray.

Jesus knew his death was coming soon. He didn't want to die, and he was probably sad and anxious. He prayed that God would present him with a solution so he wouldn't have to die, but he also knew it was up to God. After fervently praying, Jesus was visited by an angel. The angel set his mind at peace, and Jesus knew what he had to do.

When he returned, he was upset to see his friends asleep. Luke says they were asleep because they were overcome by grief. It is possible they were also exhausted and were not concerned because they did not know what was going to happen to Jesus.

When talking with young children, focus on Jesus praying at a time of sadness and uncertainty for him. Jesus showed by example that we can pray to God when we are scared or frightened. Prayer brought Jesus comfort, even though he did not receive the answer he was looking for. Children can learn that prayer can happen anytime we are feeling lost or afraid. God will listen.

Wonder with Me

READ the Bible Story

- The Last Supper, from Luke 22:39-46 (*Read from your Bible, see the verses listed below, or see one of the following pages for a picture of the Celebrate Wonder version.*)

³⁹ Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." ⁴¹ He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, ⁴² "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." ⁴³ An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. ⁴⁴ And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.^[a]

⁴⁵ When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. ⁴⁶ "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

WATCH the Bible Story

- <https://youtu.be/74eiwvpVdZ0>

SHARE the Faith Word

Faith Word: Remember – means to think about and not forget.

In our Bible story today we will hear how Jesus took his worries to God in prayer. Jesus wants us to remember him doing that, and just like him, he wants us also to take our worries to God in prayer.

WONDER Together:

1. Jesus often went outside to pray. Where do you like to pray?
2. Do you like to pray out loud or in your head?

Spiritual Practice

- **Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together** (page 8 & 9). On page 9 (*and below*) you will find the suggested Spiritual Practice activity for the week.

Remembering Jesus is sometimes hard in our fast paced lives.

This week invite Jesus to dinner with your family. During the meal, light a candle to remind you of the presence of Jesus. Eat slowly and speak softly.

Thank God for meals together that remind us Jesus is with us.

Go in Peace

Blessing: Touch your child and say: **“God loves you; you are a blessing.”**

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the love Jesus gives us. Amen.

Additional Activity for each age group

Select the material toward the end of the lesson that is age appropriate for your child(ren)

Praying in the Garden

Luke 22:39-46

After the meal, Jesus and his followers walked to a garden on the Mount of Olives to pray.

Jesus prayed, "Father, please take away my pain if you can. If you can't, I will do what you want."

An angel appeared to Jesus to give him strength and courage to face what was coming.

Jesus prayed even harder to God.

When he was finished praying, he went back to his followers. They were asleep, and Jesus was very sad. Jesus asked, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray."

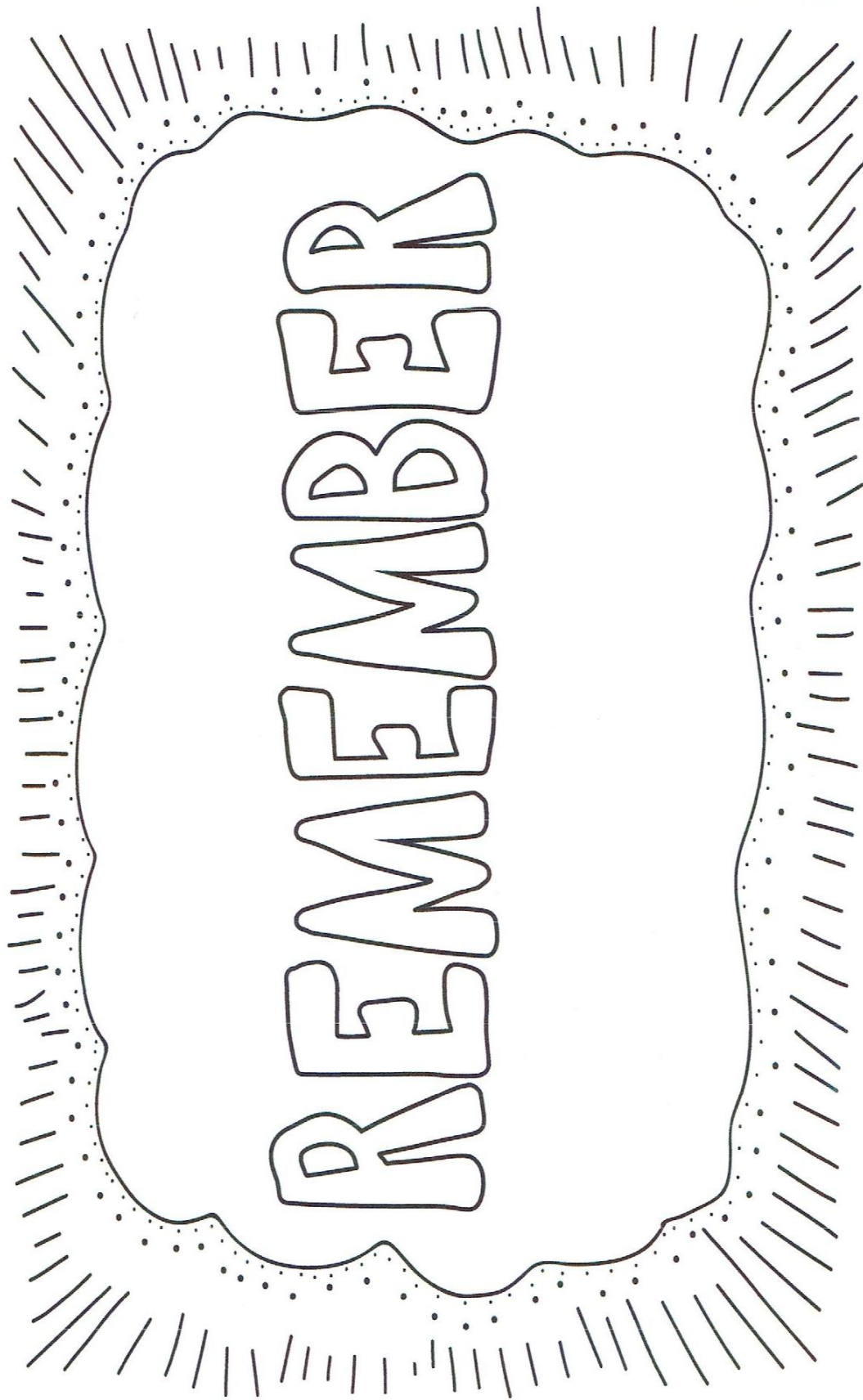
I wonder: Why do you think the followers were sleeping?

Color Sheet for all



Unit 1 Faith Word

Permission is granted to duplicate this page for local church use only. © 2020 Cokesbury.



Celebrate Wonder
Leader Guide • Spring 2021

Preschool Activity

Ways to Pray (Movement)

Supplies: None

Have your child stand with you and repeat the words and motions after you.

Say the following:

- **We want to pray every day.** (Place hands together in prayer.)
- **You can pray many ways.** (Hold hands out wide.)
- **Kneel.** (Go to your knees.)
- **Touch your hands.** (Fold hands together.)
- **Bow your head.** (Lower your head.)
- **Stand up straight.** (Stand up, keeping knees and shoulders back.)
- **Reach up high.** (Hold hands open above your head.)
- **Hold your neighbor's hand.** (Hold hands with the person next to you.)
- **Look your neighbor in the eye.** (Focus on the friend you are holding hands with.)

What is your favorite prayer position?

Do you pray any other ways?

If you choose, sing the following song together to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me".

**Jesus taught us how to pray,
to God our Father everyday:
Morning, noon, and night-time too,
We can pray and so can you.
Yes, we can pray! Yes, we can pray!
Yes, we can pray; to God through-out the day**

Early Elementary Activity

Family Spiritual Practice

Supplies: None

Create a ritual around prayer time this week. Find a time each day that your family can pray together. During your prayer time, let each person share something he or she would like to pray about. After everyone has had a chance to share, say, “Amen.”

Older Elementary Activity

Family Spiritual Practice

Supplies: None

Create a ritual around prayer time this week. Find a time each day that your family can pray together. During your prayer time, let each person share something he or she would like to pray about. After everyone has had a chance to share, say, “Amen.”

Get Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane.

