

## **BANANA NEWS**



# **GO DEEPER**

## **SPECIAL WORDS**

### PRAY

(FOLD HANDS TOGETHER IN FRONT OF CHEST)

## TO ME

(POINT UP)

### AND I WILL HEAR YOU

**(CUP HANDS BEHIND EARS)** 

## **MEMORY VERSE**

Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:12-13 (ESV)

# **DAILY DEVOTIONS**

### DAY 1: GIVE GOD YOUR ATTENTION

READ - 2 Kings 18:3-7a

Praying is talking to God. King Hezekiah realized that the Israelites had stopped talking to God because they had become distracted by things around them. This made God sad, can you show me your sad face? When you talk with God, give Him all your attention! This makes God happy, can you show me your happy face? Some people like to close their eyes so they aren't looking around at other things. Other people fold their hands to keep them from playing. What do you like to do to help you give God all your attention when you talk to Him? **Remember God says,** "Pray to Me, and I will hear you."

#### **DAY 2: GOD HEARS YOU**

READ - Hebrews 4:16, 1 John 5:14

Give your kids some directions starting with "If you can hear me..." (ex: clap 3 times, spin around, sit down, etc.) God promises to hear us when we pray to Him and that is amazing!! Think about all the billions of people in the world, how many of them pray to the One True God, and He hears us all! King Hezekiah knew that God heard him when he prayed and you can know that He hears you too! **Remember God says, "Pray to Me, and I will hear you."** 

### **DAY 3: PRAY FIRST**

READ - 2 Kings 19:9-11, 14-19

Instruct your child to hold up one finger and say, 'Pray first!' after each question. When you are feeling sad, what should you do? When you are scared, what should you do? When you are scared, what should you do? When you start your day, what should you do? When you make a mistake, what should you do? When King Hezekiah heard people making fun of God what did he do? God wants us to talk to Him first about everything! **Remember God says, "Pray to Me, and I will hear you."** 

### **DAY 4: GOD ANSWERS HEZEKIAH**

READ - 2 Kings 19:20, 32-36, Isaiah 65:24

God heard and answered Hezekiah's prayer. When you pray, God will hear and answer you. Does God always answer prayers the way you want? No. God may say, "yes", He may say, "no", He may say, "wait", or He may show you a different answer than what you had imagined. But you can trust that God has heard you and He has a good plan for you. **Remember God says, "Pray to Me, and I will hear you."** 

### **Day 5: THANK GOD**

Read - Luke 11:9-10, Psalm 145:18, 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Just like you talk to your best friend or someone in your family, God wants you to talk with Him! He loves you so much, and He loves time spent with you through prayer. Hezekiah shared his problems with the Lord knowing that God would hear him, and then Hezekiah trusted God's plan. Look up the song "God Answers Prayers" as a way to celebrate! www.tinyurl.com/GodAnswers Remember God says, "Pray to Me, and I will hear you."



Materials: Journal, Pen

God wants to hear from you! A great way to start the conversation is by creating a prayer journal. You can use any type of notebook. In your journal you can draw pictures of the things you want to tell God about. While you draw, talk with God about how you are feeling. He loves to hear from you! Here are some things you can draw about in your prayer journal every day:

- **Tell God thank you** Draw pictures of things you are thankful for.
- **Tell God what makes you sad or scared -** Draw pictures of things that made you feel sad or scared.
- **Ask God** Draw pictures of people who are sick, people who need help, or things you need help with.
- Answered Prayer Put a smiley face on your picture when God has answered it.



Materials: 11 Balloons, Paper, Pen

Parents, write the memory verse on a piece of paper and then cut out every three words together and then roll them up.

You should end up with about 10-11 pieces including the reference. If your child cannot read, number the papers in order before placing them in the balloons. This will help your child be more independent in putting the verse pieces in the right order after finding them all. Then blow up each balloon and place one roll inside each of them.

Find an open space in your home or if the weather is nice you can go outside. Set a timer and see how quickly your child can pop all of the balloons, grab the slips of paper, and help them put the verse in order! Have your child say the verse after you phrase by phrase.

Memory Verse: "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:12-13



# **CUDDLE CLOSE**

Materials: None

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "God hears me when I pray, I can pray everyday!" As you tuck them into bed, sing, "I Will Pray" (<a href="https://tinyurl.com/yancypray">https://tinyurl.com/yancypray</a>). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you:

Dear God,

Remind me to talk to you in the morning. Remind me to talk to you in the afternoon.

Remind me to talk to you at night.

Remind me that you love when I talk to you!

In Jesus' name, Amen.