



A Letter About Prayer —Part 2

Lesson Aim: To know we can pray about everything.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The Spirit Who Guides Us

THE WORD

New Testament Letters: Philippians 4:4-6

What He has done: God led Paul to write about having peace of mind.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Keep your eyes on Jesus."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"With God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26b

Challenge Verse for older children:

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find;
 knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

Unit 5: The Promise of Guidance			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
22	A Letter About Love—Part 1, 1 John 4:7a, 12	God led John to write about love.	To learn to love one another.
23	A Letter About Love—Part 2, 1 John 4:7a, 12	God led John to write about love.	To love all people by doing good deeds.
24	A Letter About Forgiveness of Sins, 1 John 1:8-9	God led John to write about the forgiveness of sins.	To know we all have done wrong and if we admit our wrongdoing to Jesus, He always forgives us.
25	A Letter About Forgiving Others, Ephesians 4:32	God led Paul to write about forgiving others.	To know we are to forgive others.
26	A Letter About Prayer—Part 1, Philippians 4:4-6	God led Paul to write about having peace of mind.	To know we can pray to God when we are worried.
27	A Letter About Prayer—Part 2, Philippians 4:4-6	God led Paul to write about having peace of mind.	To know we can pray about everything.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read 2 Timothy 4:7-8. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for being the author and perfecter of our faith. Strengthen the children to run the race You have set before them. Amen."

Teacher Tips: Prophets & Promises Lessons 22-31 (Units 5-6) feature various letters of the New Testament. Replace the Treasure Chest with a mailbox to hold THE WELCOME stamp or sticker. In THE WORD, since the letters are not Bible stories, create interest and encourage involvement by placing the symbol and the envelope with the printed letter in a mailbag or tote bag known as the "Special Delivery Mailbag."

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**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Picture Schedule Cards	Cards with picture illustrating the activities: WELCOME, WORSHIP, BIBLE, CRAFT, PRAYER, SNACK, GAMES, COLORING, GOING HOME. Envelope labeled FINISHED. Optional: To display schedule, use Velcro to attach laminated Picture Schedule cards to a felt board.
		Mailbox	Stamp or sticker of a pair of eyes
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Keep your eyes on Jesus."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "With God All Things Are Possible" or "Yahweh Every Day: Ask, Seek, Knock" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled," "Guide Me," "I Will Listen," "Love One Another," "The New Testament Overture," "We Love" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "How Great Is Our God," "Jesus Loves Me"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Prophets & Promises Lesson 26 Delbert & Lello or Mail Call script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Special Delivery: Philippians 4:4-6	Visuals: New Testament letter (available at ResourceWell.org), Bible, mailbag or tote bag, "Prayer Pillow" craft sample from last week or a small pillow Flannel board/figures: 2 adults and 2 children Clay or play-dough option: Cross
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Jesus Glasses	Sturdy white paper, craft stick, glue or tape, assorted craft decorations, crayons or markers, optional: eye glasses template (available at ResourceWell.org)
		Circle of Prayer or Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer word and picture book
		Snack: Focus Food	Donuts or any snack with a hole, picture of Jesus
		Unit 5 Games: Sand Search	Bin or container of clean sand, pen, heart-shaped item, cross, eraser, plastic model of praying hands or picture of praying hands
		Hearts From God	Two red paper heart shapes per child
		Blanket Ball	Blanket or tablecloth, inflatable ball or balloon
		Freeze Dance	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player
		Scenes from Mail Call (older children only)	Mail Call scripts for Lessons 22, 24, 25, 26
		Musical Chairs	Chairs, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player
		Bean Bag Toss	Several beanbags, one hula-hoop (or rope or floor tape)
	Make A Story	4 stick puppets of children	
Final 5	Final Five	Daily Way (Adaptation): Unit 5, Lesson 27 Color This Story: "A Letter from Paul About Prayer" (Picture of hands folded in prayer)	

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Keep your eyes on Jesus

THE WELCOME

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WELCOME TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! Come and see what we are going to do today. Point to each card on the Picture Schedule board. **Today, we will WELCOME everyone. We will read the BIBLE story and make a CRAFT. We will have PRAYER time and eat a SNACK. We will play GAMES and enjoy COLORING a picture about today's story.**

Open the mailbox to find today's special delivery. Child opens the mailbox to receive a stamp or sticker of a pair of eyes. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a pair of eyes help you remember to pray to Jesus about all you see, hear, and do. Today's Whisper Verse is "Keep your eyes on Jesus."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Keep your eyes on Jesus."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

"Keep your eyes on" The hands come together to show that the attention of someone is focused on something. This is the sign language for "focus on."

"Jesus." The middle finger of one hand touches the middle of the palm of the other hand. Repeat with the middle finger of the other hand. This action indicates the wounds in Jesus' hands after he was nailed to the cross.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Keep your eyes on Jesus," Hebrews 12:2 (NLT). The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The Spirit who guides us

THE WORSHIP

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WORSHIP TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WELCOME picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Welcome Time. Now, we will have our Worship Time.**

Children may worship in a large group with other classes or in a quiet room with a worship CD or DVD.

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to a designated place for praise songs, offering, and the worship illustration. Children who are nonverbal may enjoy participating in the music by playing children's percussion instruments such as maracas, jingle bells, wood blocks, or small tambourines. Children who are sensitive to sound may prefer to wear noise reduction headphones.

It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the Holy Spirit who guides us. The Holy Spirit guides us to keep our eyes on Jesus. That is our Whisper Verse today. Let's try it together. Review Whisper Verse together: "Keep your eyes on Jesus." Include sign language.



To "keep your eyes on Jesus" means to think of Him in all you say and do. We will not be able to see Jesus with the eyes on our faces until we get to heaven. Until then, we can keep our eyes on Jesus by always remembering and doing what He has taught us. As we give our offering today, let's keep our eyes on Jesus by singing this song to Him. Sing: "Guide Me" while collecting the offering.

When we keep our eyes on Jesus, we can remember He taught us to love one another. Sing: "Love One Another."

When we keep our eyes on Jesus, we can remember how much He loves us. Sing: "Jesus Loves Me."

Do you remember what Delbert learned last time about prayer? Let's check it out. Perform The Adventures of *Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 5, Lesson 26.*



God loves it when we pray to Him. He is the one we pray to because we know He can do all things. Nothing is impossible with God! Sing: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, "With God All Things Are Possible."

* May substitute Lesson 26 Mail Call script or storybook.



Keeping your eyes on Jesus

THE WORD

PICTURE SCHEDULE: BIBLE TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WORSHIP picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Worship Time. Now, we will have our Bible Time.**

In the Bible, there are special letters written by believers to people like you and me. Last time, we learned we can pray to God instead of worrying. Today, we will learn more about prayer. We can pray to God about everything!

SPECIAL DELIVERY: PHILIPPIANS 4:4-6

Prepare: Today's New Testament letter is available at ResourceWell.org or you can create your own by writing the words in the box below on a piece of paper. Enclose the letter in an envelope and place it inside the teacher's Bible. Place the Bible and a "Prayer Pillow" craft sample from last week or a small pillow in a mailbag or tote bag (Special Delivery Mailbag). Have children assist by placing Bible Story figures on a flannel board. Other visual options include Color This Story or a related picture. Optional: To help children focus, have them create a cross from clay or play dough as they listen to the story.

Let's open the Special Delivery Mailbag to read this week's letter from the Bible. Choose a child to open the mailbag, remove the Bible, and hand it to the leader or teacher. Read the letter.



Dear brothers and sisters in the family of God,

Do not be worried about anything. Instead, pray about everything!

Love,
Paul

What should we do instead of worrying? (Pray.) Let's find our answer in today's letter from the Bible. Read answer from today's New Testament Letter.

You can pray about everything! When we pray and think of Jesus in everything we say, think, or do, that's called keeping our eyes on Jesus. Who should you keep your eyes on? (Jesus.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Keep your eyes on Jesus." Include sign language or hand motions.

PASS THE PRAYER PILLOW: Our symbol for Paul's letter about prayer is a prayer pillow. Invite a child to reach into the mailbag to find today's symbol ("Prayer Pillow" craft sample from last week or a small pillow). **Some people kneel on a prayer pillow when they pray. Let's talk about Paul's letter as we play "Pass the Prayer Pillow." If you know the answer to the question I ask, raise your hand. When someone passes you the "Prayer Pillow," tell us your answer.** Ask the question below and give the pillow to a child whose hand is raised. The child kneels on the pillow, gives his or her answer, and then gives the pillow to another child whose hand is raised.

- **What would you like to pray about today?**



Pray about everything

THE WAY

PICTURE SCHEDULE: CRAFT TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the BIBLE picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Bible Time. Now, it is Craft Time.**

CRAFT: JESUS GLASSES

Purpose: To remind the children they should focus on Jesus as instructed in the letter to the Hebrews.

Supplies: Sturdy white paper, craft stick, glue or tape, assorted craft decorations (sequins, craft jewels, ribbon, foam shapes, stickers, eyes, etc.), crayons or markers, optional: eye glasses template (available at ResourceWell.org)

Prepare: On sturdy paper, print or draw a picture of Jesus. Cut out the picture. On sturdy paper, print and cut out the eye glasses template or cut and bend sturdy paper into the shape of glasses. On the side of the glasses, print: **Keep your eyes on Jesus. Hebrews 12:1-3**

Directions:

1. Color the picture of Jesus.
2. Tape or glue the picture of Jesus to a craft stick.
3. Use assorted craft decorations to decorate the glasses.
4. Hold the picture of Jesus in front of you. Look through the glasses to focus on Jesus.

Craft Discussion:

- **Who should you keep your eyes on? (Jesus.) That's like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say Whisper Verse together with hand motions.
- **Put on your glasses. Look at the picture of Jesus.**
- **When we say we are "keeping our eyes on Jesus," do we mean we will never stop looking at this picture of Jesus? (No.)**
- **Do we mean that the eyes on our faces can see Jesus right now in heaven? (No.)**
- **Does it mean that we are thinking of Jesus in all we say and do? (Yes.)**
- **Don't put your "Jesus Glasses" away. We are going to use them in our games today.**

THE WAY *continued...*



CIRCLE OF PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

PICTURE SCHEDULE: PRAYER TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the CRAFT picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Craft Time. Now, it is Prayer Time.**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen. You may add the Lord's Prayer with the word picture book.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: SNACK TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the PRAYER picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Prayer Time. Now, it is Snack Time.**

Teacher Tip: It is important to keep a record of all dietary restrictions and allergies accessible. Some parents may prefer to bring their child's snack. Depending on the dietary needs of your classroom, you may determine it is best to omit snack time completely.

SNACK: FOCUS FOOD

Purpose: Children will realize they can focus on Jesus to know how to live every day.

Snack Suggestion: Donuts or any snack with a hole, picture of Jesus

Directions:

1. Serve the snacks and drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate motions to the Whisper Verse: "Keep your eyes on Jesus."
 - **What does it mean to keep your eyes on Jesus?** (To think of Jesus in all you say and do.)
 - Hold up the picture of Jesus. **Look through the hole in your snack. Whose picture do you see?** (Jesus.)
 - **We can think about Jesus no matter what we are doing. Let's see how many places and situations we can name where we can think about Him.** Children list daily activities and conversations such as playing with friends, working at school, talking to a sibling, etc.
 - **Can you think of Jesus in all you do?** (Yes!)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS)

UNIT 5 GAME OPTIONS

Play one or more of the activities below until the last five minutes of class then proceed to Final Five.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GAMES TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > **GAMES** > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the SNACK picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Snack Time. Now, is our time to play Games.**

GAME: SAND SEARCH

Purpose: This sand sifting activity soothes children. The items in the bin can be used to introduce the New Testament Letters or the Unit 5 Worship Attribute: The Spirit Who Guides Us.

Supplies: Bin or container of clean sand, pen, heart-shaped item, cross, eraser, plastic model of praying hands or picture of praying hands

Prepare: Place all items beneath the surface of the sand.

Directions:

1. Children take turns reaching into the sand in search of the objects.
2. Teacher and children discuss each object as it is located.
3. When all the objects have been located, display them on a tabletop or on the surface of the sand.
4. Children feel each item as the teacher explains their connection to the Unit 5 New Testament Letters. The pen reminds us of the letters God led people to write to help us as we follow Jesus. The heart-shaped item reminds us to love one another. The cross reminds us that Jesus forgives us and we are to forgive others. The hands remind us to pray when we are worried. We can pray to God about everything!

GAME: HEARTS FROM GOD

Purpose: Children will share hearts dropped from "heaven" to show how they can love each other.

Supplies: Two red paper heart shapes per child

Where does love come from? (God.)

Directions:

1. **Imagine the falling hearts are God's love for you!**
2. Drop and scatter hearts from above the children's heads.
3. **Catch two hearts; one for you and one for a friend.**
4. Each child picks up two hearts.
5. **Give one heart to a friend!**
6. Help each child find a partner.
7. Each child keeps one heart to remember God loves him or her.
8. Each child gives the other heart to his or her partner to show love to one another.
9. Play again as time allows.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: BLANKET BALL

Purpose: Children catch a ball in a blanket to remember the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Blanket or tablecloth, inflatable ball or balloon

Optional: For a more challenging game, use the Unit 5 Bible Memory Challenge Verse (Matthew 7:7). Phrases may be divided as follows: "Ask/ and it will be given to you/ seek/ and you will find/ knock/ and the door will be opened to you."

Let's use this blanket to toss the ball into the air. As soon as the ball lands again on the blanket, we will say a part of the Bible Memory Verse (Matthew 19:26b): "With God/all things/are possible."

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle holding the edges of the blanket.
2. Place an inflatable ball or balloon in the center of the blanket.
3. Together, children quickly raise the blanket to toss the ball into the air.
4. When the ball lands back on the blanket, lead children in saying a word or a phrase ("With God/ all things/ are possible.") of the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Play several times.

GAME: FREEZE DANCE

Purpose: To practice the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song.

Supplies: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "With God All Things Are Possible" or "Yahweh Every Day: Ask, Seek, Knock," CD player

To practice our Bible Memory Verse Song, let's play Freeze Dance. Be sure to stop and freeze when you hear the music stop.

Directions:

1. Children dance as the Bible Memory Verse Song is played.
2. Have a helper periodically pause the music.
3. When the music stops, everyone "freezes" (stops in place and doesn't move). When the helper restarts the music, the children begin dancing again.
4. Play as long as you like.

GAME: SCENES FROM MAIL CALL

Purpose: To learn applications of the Unit 5 Bible stories, older children act out today's Mail Call script.

Supplies: Mail Call scripts for Lessons 22, 24, 25, 26

Directions:

1. Choose the script that corresponds with today's New Testament Letter.
2. Assign each child a character name and improvise with the script so all the children can be their favorite character, a new character, or just take turns being the same character.
3. Act it out!

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: This version of Musical Chairs familiarizes children with the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song.

Supplies: 1 chair per child, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player

Prepare: Set chairs back-to-back in a row.

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed; all children remain in the game. Leave one or more spaces at the end of the row of chairs for any children in wheelchairs. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and are seated.

To practice our Bible Memory Verse Song, let's play Musical Chairs.

Directions:

1. As the Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children march around the row of chairs and sing.
2. The teacher stops the music at different times during the song.
3. When the music stops, children find the nearest chair and sit immediately.

GAME: BEAN BAG TOSS

Purpose: To help children review the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Several beanbags, one hula-hoop (or rope or floor tape)

Prepare: Use hula-hoop, rope, or floor tape to create a large target area on the floor.

Directions:

1. Give a beanbag to the first child.
2. Stand with the child approximately 6 feet from the target.
3. Before tossing the beanbag, the child says part of the Bible Memory Verse. (The teacher may say it with the child, as needed.)
4. Child tosses the beanbag at the target.
5. Children take turns to see who can reach the target.
6. Play again, as time allows.

GAME: MAKE A STORY

Purpose: To express the meaning of the Unit 5 Whisper Verses.

Supplies: 4 stick puppets of children

Directions:

1. Ask children if they would like to make up a story about one of the Whisper Verses listed below.
"Love one another."
"Do good to all people."
"Forgive each other."
2. Each child can make up his or her own story or children can make up a story together.
3. Encourage children to use the stick puppets to act out the stories.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

PICTURE SCHEDULE: COLORING TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the GAMES picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Game Time. Now, is our time for coloring the picture of today's story.**

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Jesus Glasses" craft. Tell someone what it means to "Keep your eyes on Jesus."

DAILY WAY (ADAPTATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES): Distribute this version of the Daily Way, if available. **Show the Daily Way to your family. Talk about how you can keep your eyes on Jesus by thinking of Him in all you say and do.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "A Letter from Paul About Prayer." For today's Color This Story, use a picture of hands folded in prayer. Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, "With God All Things Are Possible" or "Yahweh Every Day: Ask, Seek, Knock" as children color.

As coloring is completed or parents arrive:

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GOING HOME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the COLORING picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Coloring Time. Now, it is time for Going Home.**

THE DAILY WAY

Unit 5, Lesson 27: A Letter about Prayer—Part 2

PONDER! Read Hebrews 12:1-3 with your family. This letter was written to the Hebrew people. The message in the letter is for us, too. "Keep your eyes on Jesus" does not just mean to look at a picture of Jesus. It means to think of Jesus in all you say and do. When we are thinking about Jesus throughout the day, we make choices that He would make. Can you do that today?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord Jesus, thank You for this letter that reminds us to keep our eyes on You. Help us to do that by thinking of You in all we say and do. Amen."

PLAY! Have someone in your family draw a picture of Jesus or of a cross. You can color it and put it in a special place that you will see each day. Each time you see it, let it remind you to **think of Jesus in all you say and do.** That's keeping your eyes on Jesus!

Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse:

"With God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26b

Unit 5 Bible Memory Challenge Verse:

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."
Matthew 7:7