



Year 2 Video Scripts - Invitation to Prayer

Why...

Talk, talk, talk. Your child is at the age where they are communicating with you and with others. I realize that communicate is a broad term. You may have a child who is just beginning to speak and has a handful of words they use. Some of you may have a kid who never stops talking, or you might be somewhere in the middle. Wherever your little chatterbox is, you are realizing how important it is to be able to connect with them.

It's wonderful to be able to talk with your child. While you are teaching your child how to "use their words", it is crucial not to leave out the most important conversations we have: prayer. It's not too early to teach your children to make prayer a priority. Prayers don't have to be elaborate and formal. God hears them all. It makes sense that we teach children to pray in terms that they understand. Keep it simple and on their level. Whether they speak with just a few words or full sentences; all those words can be directed toward God. After all, He is the most worthy of our words.

Making prayer a daily part of life is the easiest way to make it a priority for your family. We will be providing you with three kick starters to help you understand the basics of prayer. You will learn about what prayer is and why we pray at all. Finally, you will discover what you should pray for your child. Remember, it is never too soon to begin your child's

walk with God. It will be much harder to introduce prayer later on in life. Children form habits very early, so it is necessary to teach them the importance of a daily prayer life at a young age. However, we cannot teach something that we ourselves don't understand! The kick starters will help you to do that.

Our hope is that if you understand the basics of prayer, it will be simple to place the knowledge and desire to pray in your kids. How exciting and special to be able to pray together as a family! You are opening the door to your child's prayer life with God and sharing it right alongside them. Understanding what prayer is all about will open new doors in your walk with God and you will be able to share that knowledge with your child. Those are good conversations to have!

How...

There is a quote that says, "Be the change you wish to see in the world". A great way for your child to see the importance of prayer in their life is to see it as a priority in yours.

If you believe it's important, they will too. Through the kick starters we learned what prayer is all about and why we do it. The Rite of Passage experience, will help you create a prayer specifically for your child. When they turned a year old, we helped you create a Birthday Blessing for them. If you haven't done this, don't worry, it isn't too



late! A Birthday Blessing is a letter to your child communicating your wishes for their life. What kind of person do you pray they become? What characteristics would you like them to possess?

it is precious. Now that is something to talk about.

Choose attributes that your child was blessed with and base your prayer off of them. Your prayer should be short and uncomplicated. If your child possesses a loving heart and is very helpful, your prayer may be as simple as, "Dear God, may John be a good friend and love others as You love us." Repeating this prayer in your child's life reinforces your wish for their character and teaches them to pray daily. As they grow older, they have heard these words spoken over them many times and it is familiar.

This is a prayer they can pray for themselves and qualities they can continue to strive toward.

(Insert your own story here)

Our son was a very late talker. We began praying simple prayers with him before meals and at bedtime before he was saying anything at all. As he began talking, these prayers were familiar to him and included words he recognized. He would chime in with the words he knew and as he grew older, he said them completely on his own. These moments wouldn't have happened if we hadn't been persistent about praying with him.

Create a prayer that is personal for your child and applies to them. Show them that prayer is a way we communicate with God and that