

# Prayer Cups

Share this with your Church and Sunday School.



The key part of prayer is not us talking to God. It is the learning to listen part...the sticking with each prayer until we hear from God part. This learning to listen to God is the ONE thing most likely to connect a child to God and a church for life. May the following “Prayer Cup” be a miracle first step for each member of your family.

## Start with a styrofoam cup...

one for each child in the family or Sunday School Class and one for each adult. On one side of each cup (in the language of your choice) write “From Me to Jesus”. On the other write “From Jesus to Me”. The point is: every prayer has two halves...first we talk to God...then we listen. *No prayer is completed until a child hears from God...in his heart.* In the words of Doctor Charles Stanley: “The ONE thing that has molded my life is learning to LISTEN to God at an early age”.

THEN take turns praying one sentence prayers with each child. After 2 or 3 days help the child chose one of his prayers to put in the cup. Write the prayer on a slip of paper and put it in the cup. Put the cup near the child’s bed and each morning remind him or her to pray it as often as possible.

The central goal of the prayer cup is helping children develop a **HABIT** of prayer, to help them form a personal and lifelong relationship with God.

A prayer cup by a child’s bed should be as much a part of childhood as riding a bicycle or learning to read ...something the child will remember all his or her life ...something that helps him CONNECT to God... something he SEES every day.

Explain that after the Amen our job is to listen...to keep praying and TRUSTING that God will answer...that we should not give up believing until we hear from God...his invisible spirit speaking to ours. After a week if the child does not think he has heard from God then he should ask others to pray with him. (Matthew 18:20). It could be a family member, someone in his Sunday School Class, even a pastor. If necessary ask the entire church to pray with the child until he believes he has heard from God...*BUT... No child should reach the age of 18 without at least one prayer answered.*

*Learning to pray (form a RELATIONSHIP with God) will take a lifetime but a prayer cup in the home will REMIND everyone every day of their lives that God is real. For prayer to become a habit in a child’s life practice is the family’s number one need. Needs 2,3 and 4 are practice, More Practice and EVEN MORE PRACTICE.*



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