Jesus Prays – Bible Story

**Reader 1:** Prayer was important to Jesus. It was his way of talking to God and listening for God to talk to him.

**Reader 2:** After the last supper, Jesus and his disciples went to the Mount of Olives. Jesus went to the garden there to pray. The garden of Gethsemane was a place Jesus had prayed in many times.

**Reader 3:** Three of Jesus’ disciples went with him into the garden. He told them to stay there while he went further into the garden to pray. The disciples were supposed to stay alert and pray.

**Reader 1:** Jesus prayed, “My Father, if it’s possible, take this cup of suffering away from me. However—not what I want but what you want.”

**Reader 2:** When Jesus came back to the three disciples, they were sleeping. Jesus told them again to stay alert and pray.

**Reader 3:** Jesus returned to his place of prayer and asked God again to remove his suffering. But Jesus said he would follow God’s will.

**Reader 1:** He returned to his disciples, and they were sleeping—not praying. Jesus left them asleep and returned to pray again.

**Reader 2:** Again, Jesus asked God to show him God’s will. God showed Jesus what he must do.

**Reader 3:** Jesus returned to the sleeping disciples and woke them up. The time of prayer was over.

(Based on Matthew 26:36-46)
Fill the Shadows – Puzzle (Preschool)

Look at the picture of Jesus praying in the garden. Some of the picture is missing. Look at the items surrounding the picture and find what needs to go in each shadowed section. Draw lines from the correct items to their places in the picture.
Picture Questions – Puzzle (Younger Elementary)

For each question, you have three picture answers to choose from. Circle the correct pictures that answer the questions. For help with the questions, look at Matthew 26:36-46 in your Bible.

1. Where did Jesus and the disciples go after the supper?

2. What did Jesus do in the garden?

3. What did the disciples do while Jesus was praying?

4. What did Jesus ask the disciples to do while he prayed?

5. How many times did Jesus leave his disciples and go in the garden to pray?

1 2 3
5d Anagram – Puzzle (Older Elementary)

Unscramble the letters to find words from the story of Jesus praying in the garden of Gethsemane. For help, find Matthew 26:36-46 in your Bible

Jesus Prays

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Jesus Prays

Matthew 26:36-46

After their last meal together, Jesus went to the garden of Gethsemane to do what he had done so many times—pray to God. He asked his disciples to stay alert and pray too, but they fell asleep. He knew he would die soon. Three times he prayed and asked God to remove his suffering. Each time he also told God he would do God’s will. He listened for God to talk to him and answer his prayer. God showed him what he must do, and Jesus obeyed God’s instructions. Prayer was the way Jesus spoke to God and listened for God’s instructions. Prayer is also our way to communicate with God.

Verse of the Month

“If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other’s feet.”
John 13:14

What Do You Think?

How do you think Jesus felt when he found the disciples sleeping?

Why do you think Jesus went to the garden to pray?

Family Activity

Do you as a family have a special place to pray?

Share your prayer requests with each other and pray together for them.

Talk about times when God has answered your prayers and what you did then.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for hearing our prayers and showing us your will. Help us pray daily like Jesus taught us to do; in Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.