**Infant and Toddler Lesson**

**Nursery Manual Lesson 3**

**I Can Pray to Heavenly Father**

**One of the greatest gifts we have is the ability to talk to Heavenly Father whenever we need or want to! Teach your child to take advantage of this wonderful gift!**

**Purpose**

To help each child learn how to pray to Heavenly Father and know that he will listen.

“There is no more beautiful sight in all this world than to see a family praying together.” ~ President Thomas S. Monson

**Preparation**

Pull up any links you might need for the lesson – look at the Family Night website for quick links

Mark Scriptures ~ 3rd Nephi 18:21

Find a Picture of ~ Daniel & The Lions Den

Prepare for the Activities you want to do.

Things you will need ~ anything else you might need for extra activities

Prepare Treat ~ Suggested Treat – Pretzels and Fruit Dip

**I Can Pray to Heavenly Father**

**Opening Song** ~ A Prayer Song (Primary Hymnbook; Hymn 22)

**Opening Prayer**

**Attention Activity** ~ Have a bag filled with things you are thankful for. Could be scriptures, food, special books or toys, flower, anything else you can think of. Have your child take one out at a time and explain why you are thankful for those things. Tell your child how when you say prayers you can thank Heavenly Father for all the things you are thankful for! ~Idea found on nocrylds.blogspot.com

**Scripture** ~ 3rd Nephi 18:21

Have the child repeat, word for word the scripture. Teach your child that we start the prayer by saying “Dear Heavenly Father” because that is who we are praying to. And we end with “In the Name of Jesus Christ” because we are praying in his name, just like the scriptures says to! Also point out that the scripture says when we pray we are blessed.

**Scripture Story** ~Daniel & The Lions Den

Show your child the picture of Daniel & The Lions Den. Tell them the story of Daniel and his prayers!

The King where Daniel lived decided that everyone should pray to him, instead of Heavenly Father. He told the people that if they did not pray to him they would be put into the Lions Den. Daniel decided to choose the right and pray to Heavenly Father instead of the King. The King was sad to put Daniel into the lions den. He was friends with Daniel, and he thought the lions would hurt him.

The next day the King looked in the lions den to see if Daniel was ok, and he was! Daniel had prayed to Heavenly Father for protection, and the lions did not hurt him! Daniel was blessed for choosing the right, and choosing to pray to Heavenly Father!

**Story** ~ “He Is Listening” ~ From June 2010 Friend (Link on Family Night Website)

Read the story about Devon and how he prayed. Talk with your child about how they get ready to pray. Encourage your child to be still with their arms folded, head bowed, and eyes shut. It doesn’t always happen at this age – be sure to praise any good efforts! There is a link to the story on the FHE website!

**Activity** ~ Paper Bag Prayer Guy ~ Activity found on churchbabiesblogspot.com

Everyone will need a paper bag, a couple fasteners for the arms, and a print out of “Ralph.” Paste the printout onto the paper bag, and you can help Ralph fold his arms, bow his head, and close his eyes during the prayer!

**Testimony** ~ Bear your testimony to your child about prayer! Maybe you can even tell them about a time in your life (kids love hearing stories from when you were little) when prayer blessed your life. Tell them you know that Heavenly Father is there and listening to every prayer you say! And He answers your prayers at the best time and in the best way!

**Closing Song** ~ I Pray in Faith (Primary Hymnbook; Hymn 14)

**Closing Prayer**

**Treat** ~ Suggested Treat ~ Pretzels with fruit dip! Show your child how the pretzels look like arms being folded! Then blend some of your favorite fruits together and then mix in some whipped cream to make it a little lighter and easier to eat with pretzels! Yummy!

**Extra Activities for This Lesson ~**

**1** ~ Activity with Glue! There is an activity I found on besassyclassy.blogspot.com wher you cut out pictures and then glue them in the right place – has to do with being thankful for different parts of our bodies. I would suggest cutting them out before FHE, and explaining to your child during the activity how we can be thankful to Heavenly Father for so many things! Link on Family Night website!

**2** ~ I Can Pray to Heavenly Father! Coloring page found on lds.org

**3** ~ I Can Pray to Heavenly Father File Folder Game~ By Melanie Day

**Other Materials ~**

Basically all the ideas from this lesson is from The Primary 1 Manual, lds.org, and Sugardoodle.net

If you are looking for other materials to help with your lesson you can look in any of these places ~ There are links to them on the Family Night Website!