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| Puzzle Piece Prayer | | Each person gets a puzzle piece, they put their name on it with a sharpie marker, the group then assembles the puzzle. This works best when the puzzle pieces is the same as the number in the group. | |
| Prayer Walk- Building Edition | | Walk around the building (church, house, etc.) praying for the people who serve or live there asking for God's guidance and protection. | |
| Prayer Walk- Community Edition | | Walk around the town, community, or city where the group meets. Pray for the people to grow closer to God or to meet Christ, pray for the needs of the people to be met. | |
| Pray the World | | Find a large world map, divide up continents or countries and have group members take turns praying for needs in these places. | |
| Pray the Nation | | Find a national map, divide up the regions and pray for the needs in each location. | |
| Journal in Print | | Instruct the group on the benefits of writing down prayers. Play some background music to block out distractions and provide a set amount of time for the group to pray while journaling through writing. | |
| Journal in Pictures | | Instruct the group that many people can process their thoughts better through images than they can through pictures, provide time for group members to draw their thoughts and feelings in a way that they are communicating with God. | |
| Prayers in a Hat | | Take pieces of paper and write items for prayer. Place the papers in a hat and allow youth to take turns picking out pieces of paper. Then allow youth to pray for what is on their paper either silently or out loud depending upon the group. | |
| Directional Prayer | | Have students face a direction- taking a compass (or the compass app on a Smart Phone) tell youth which direction they are facing. Take a minute to talk about needs existing in these different directions. Then have people pray for whatever is happening in the direction they are facing. | |
| Community Prayer | | Have several objects that you place in a box or a bag. Each object corresponds to something from the community where your church is located. For instance, a toy police car or toy gun would refer to the police, a mini fire extinguisher or toy fire truck would refer to the fire department, an apple or toy school bus would refer to the school, etc. Take turns praying for the people who serve at these places in the community and that God would work through your church to reach these people for Christ. | |
| Newspaper Prayer` | | Pull out a newspaper, give sections to the group. Take turns praying about current events or public figures. | |
| Candle in the Dark | | Light a candle in a dark room. Take time to pray for the persecuted people around the world who struggle because of their faith in Christ. Ask that God will help them and us to shine our light for Christ. | |
| Pray Scripture (Psalms) | | Take a Psalm and use it as a prayer- Afraid- 3,91; Alone 22; Comfort 23; Not Giving Up 34, 43; Envy 73; Sad 13; Weak 40, 121, 142; Worried 37; Tempted 141; Unimportant 139; Praising God 96, 100, 145. | |
| Sticky Note Prayer | | Hand out sticky notes, allow students to write prayers on a sticky note and then stick them to a cross in the room or a prayer board. | |
| 5 Finger Prayer | | Look at your hand- let the little finger remind you of those in need, the ring finger to remind you to pray for relationships, the middle finger (which is the longest) to pray for those that lead in your school, church, government; Pointer Finger for those needs you so going on around you; and your thumb for all the other things going on. | |
| Popcorn Prayer | | Just like popcorn kernels, some pop and some don't. Allow youth to pop in and share a sentence or even a one-word response. People have the freedom not to "pop" but some may choose to pop more than once. | |
| Telephone Prayer | | Form a circle, hold hands starting with one to two-word prayers or sentence prayers go one person at a time around the circle. The first person prays and when finished lightly (emphasis on lightly) squeezes the hand of the person on the left. This person then either prays and squeezes the hand of the person on his or her left or decides not to pray and still squeezes the hand on the left. This continues around the circle until the last person prays and says "Amen" which hangs up the call! | |
| Country Letters | | Each person chooses country that starts with the letter of their first name. Pray for God's work in that country one at a time. | |
| Animal Letters | | Each person chooses an animal starting with the letter of his or her first name. Thank God for His amazing creation especially that animal and whatever purpose it tends to serve. | |
| Body of Water | | Choose a body of water that each person would like to visit. Thank God for creating this body of water and all that it does to help people. | |
| Band-Aid Prayers | | Hand out band-aids and sharpie markers. Have everyone write a prayer request connected to someone who is hurting. Put the band-aids on a cross. Talk about how Christ died for the brokenness in each person including those mentioned on the band-aids. Then either take turns praying for these needs or have one person lead the group in prayer for these people. | |
| Candy Prayer | | Use M&M's, Skittles, Gummy Bears, or some candy that comes in different colors. Ask each person to take a few. Then hand out cards that explain what each person is supposed to do for each color. Have something to pray for connected with each color- example: yellow- thank you God for the sun and for the warmth and heat it provides, green- thank you for the trees, bushes and plants that provide food and show us life in your creation. | |
| Love Your Neighbor | | Use a dry erase board and write "Love Your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Neighbor. Do this about 10-15 times. Have students fill in adjectives to describe their neighbors. Example: Love Your Awkward Neighbor. Love Your Hygiene-challenged Neighbor. Love Your Cocky/Haughty Neighbor. Take turns praying for neighbors (without names!) that fit these descriptions. | |
| Scrabble Prayer | | Distribute handfuls of scrabble letters to small groups. Have them form words from the letters and pray about the items that come up in the words they form. | |
| Spectrum Prayer | | Ask each person to pick a color and then thank God for individual items that are that color. Example: Orange- thank you God for oranges that give us delicious food and Vitamin C, pumpkins that provide food and fun in the fall, etc. | |
| Beach Ball | | Blow up a beach ball and make a card with what people should pray for according to the ball panel where their right thumb is found upon catching the ball. | |
| Shirt Tag | | Have everyone in the room check the shirt tags of their neighbor calling out the country where their shirt was made. Share a few interesting facts about those countries if you know them. Then take turns praying for the people who made your shirts as well as God's work in those countries. | |
| PowerPoint Country | | Put the outline of a country that youth may not know that is in the news for some reason. Give youth a chance to guess what country it is. Provide a few facts about how many Christians live there, what other religions exist in that country, and a few needs missionaries have. The organization Operation World has periodic books that are published with great information on countries and their spiritual climate. | |
| PowerPoint Flag | | Put a country's flag on a slide and ask who knows which country it is from. After they guess it or you tell them the answer, provide information about the country and missionary needs in that country. Then pray for these needs. | |
| Simultaneous Prayer | | Have everyone pray out loud at the same time. This is how pray is done in many cultures around the world. It will be weird at first to many youth but after a few times many will prefer this manner to just one person doing the talking. | |
| Left/Right Prayer | | Form a circle, make sure people know the people next to them, then have them pray either silently or everyone out loud at the same time for the person on their left and the person on their right. | |
| Movie Prayer | | Have each person choose a movie that has been recently viewed or the person plans to see the movie soon. Choose an actor from the film and ask God to help this person come to faith in Christ if he or she has not. Then ask for God to make an impact through this person's life. | |
| Music Star Prayer | | Have each person choose their favorite band or singer. Ask God to bring this person to Christ if the person does not know Him. Ask for God to make an impact through this person's life. | |
| Sporting Event | | Ask God to reach every person attending the event or watching the event on television. Pray for the people producing the show, keeping the stadium open and safe, and for the athletes that they will give God the glory for the platform He has given them. | |
| Invention Prayer | | Choose an invention that people might take for granted today. Choose whether to do quick Google searches to name the inventors. Thank God for our minds, the minds of the inventors, their inventions, and the creative acts He does and will continue to do through us every day. | |
| Footwear Prayer | | Choose a type of footwear. It can be anything from ski boots to stilettos to sneakers. Pray for the people that make these shoes, for the types of people that wear these shoes and the type of work they provide while wearing them. | |
| Hat Prayer | | Choose a type of hat. It can be anything from a cowboy hat to baseball hat to swim cap. Pray for people that wear these types of hats and thank God for the purpose they serve. | |
| Dice Prayer | | Right down eleven items teens could pray about. On a piece of paper or white board write numbers beginning with 2 and ending with 12. Put one prayer request next to each number. Give each small group of students two dice. Have each youth roll the dice and then pray about the item corresponding to the number rolled. | |
| Public Blitz Prayer | | Have youth pair up or go in small groups throughout a public building, in a mall, etc. within eyesight of adult youth workers. Have them ask for prayer requests. They should pray with people right there and be prepared to come back to the group and tell about their experiences. | |
| TP Prayer | | Pass a roll of toilet paper around the room. Ask each person to take as many sections of toilet paper that he or she needs. Do not reveal what the need is related to. After passing the TP around the room, in small groups have youth mention one item he or she is thankful for in prayer to God for each section of toilet paper taken. | |
| Worship Song Prayer | | Play a worship song. Ask students to have an attitude of prayer and listen to God or offer praises to Him while the song is playing. | |
| Singing Prayer | | Choose one of many songs that can be sung as a prayer. | |
| Poster/Prayer Board | | Have newsprint or a white board and the appropriate type of markers needed. Make sure a variety of colors are available. Give students five minutes to come up with as many words or pictures to describe things they are thankful for. This activity works great at Thanksgiving, after the New Year as part of a reflection time, as well as ending or beginning the school year. | |
| Hot Potato Prayer | | Have a stuffed animal or ball to toss while the group sits in a circle. One at a time the item is tossed to a new person. The person catches the item, mentions either a sentence or one-word prayer, then tosses the item to a person who hasn't caught the item yet. Continue until each person in the circle has caught the item and mentioned a prayer. | |
| Outward Circle Prayer | | Pray either silently or all out loud at the same time for those who do not know Christ and those who are not part of a youth ministry and church. While facing outward think about the specific names of people and ask God to touch their lives and bring them to a relationship with Him. | |
| Concert of Prayer | | List several different items on a PowerPoint slide that groups could pray for. Break into groups of 3-4 people. List the first slide showing the first item to pray about. Give the groups a certain amount of time to pray for that item. Then welcome them back. List the next slide. Continue the process until all the items are covered. | |
| Birthdate Prayer | | Have the group around themselves in a circle with a starting point being closest to January 1 going the whole way through the year until the last person standing next to the earliest birthday in the year is the person with the latest birthday in the year. Have one person thank God for bringing all the people in the circle into the world and ask God to guide your group as you reach out to share about Him with others He has made. | |
| World Cup Prayer | | Break into small groups. Have each group choose a country to pray for its needs. Maximize the impact of this approach by pulling a few facts in advance for a select number of countries to choose from. Maximize the impact even more by having competitions later in the session between the different countries. | |
| Scavenger Hunt Prayer | | Give your students five minutes to run and grab an appropriate item that helps them think about God. This can be done in a park, outdoor at a camp, inside churches and even in people's homes. Allow youth to talk about their object lesson. Close the time with a short prayer thanking God for making Himself know to His people through things He has created. | |
| Movie Clip Prayer | | Show a brief movie clip that talks about a group of people or an emotional challenge student deal with. Take time to pray for people wrestling with this challenge. Let youth know that God loves all people and sees value and worth in them even though He may not agree with their choices or actions. He also longs for all people to have a relationship with Him. | |
| Superhero Prayer | | Have each student choose a favorite Superhero and talk about the super powers that hero has. Lead the group in prayer thanking God for making each person in the group "super" through the incredible abilities and experiences He has given them. | |