

Kids Church

July 26, 2026

K- 1st Grades



Theme This Week- "Never give up, never surrender!"

Prayer Time- Wow, God, thanks for the reminder that You just love it when we pray. That we can keep asking over and over again for the same thing and it does not bother You. Help us to grow our faith in how we talk to You. Help us to hear Your response when You share. And help us to trust that Your answer is the best answer.

Challenge- Impossible Shot

Special Story- Riding a dirt bike.

Memory Verse – "God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit."
Romans 14:17

Songs- Free, Goodness of God, Jesus Loves Me

Devotion- The Persistent Widow
Luke 18:1-8

hopekids

Small Group Time

Keep On Knocking

What You Need:

- ☐ Tri-fold presentation board
- ☐ Small basket or container
- ☐ Small treats or stickers

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Tell the kids they have to knock on the “door” to get a special prize, but the “Judge” (Leader) is a little grumpy and will only open it after a specific, funny sequence of persistent actions.
- First time: Have a kid knock once. (From behind the “door,” say in a grumpy voice: “Go away! I’m busy!”)
- Second time: Have another kid knock three times while hopping on one foot. (Say: “I’m still busy! Try again!”)
- Third time: Have the whole group knock on the “door” together and say: “Please, Mr. Judge!”
- After the third try, open the “door” with a big sigh, and let them get their prize.

What You Say:

“You did it! Your persistence paid off! The widow in our story didn’t just knock once and go home. She kept coming back! Jesus wants us to be like that when we pray. But is God a grumpy judge? (*Pause for responses.*) No! He’s our loving Father, and He LOVES to hear from us.

“We can keep talking to Him because we know He’s listening. That doesn’t mean God will answer right away or even in the way we think is best. Sometimes God says, ‘Yes.’ Sometimes He says, ‘No.’ And a lot of times, God says, ‘Not yet.’ But no matter what, Jesus gives us permission to keep on asking for what we want.

“When you keep praying—when you keep talking to God, and talking to God, and talking to God—it helps your heart stay close to God. And even when things are slow

or hard, God is working. He is listening. And He is working on something good because He loves you so much!"

Take Time to Pray with your Kiddos!

Memory Verse Tower

What You Need:

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Ping-pong ball

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible, and direct them to look up Romans 14:17.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse
- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Give the kids a stack of plastic cups.
- Challenge them to work together to build a tall tower or castle.
- Once their tower is built, give them a ping-pong ball.
- Say: "Your challenge is to balance this ping-pong ball on the very top cup of your tower! Then, carefully move the cup with the ping-pong ball down to collect all the cups without the cups falling or the ping-pong ball falling off."
- This will take steady hands and patience. If the ping-pong ball or cups fall, encourage them to restack the cups and try again. Say: "Don't give up!"
- While they work, repeat the Memory Verse: *"God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17 NIV).*

What You Say:

"You did it! It wasn't easy, but you didn't give up. It's like that when we pray. Sometimes we have to keep asking and keep trusting God. When we do, God gives us peace and joy, just like our Memory Verse says. He will grow the good things of His kingdom in our hearts as we stay close to Him. **[Bottom Line] God's kingdom grows when you pray and don't give up.**"

Discussion Questions

1. What is a widow? It is a woman whose husband has passed away.
2. Why do you think Jesus told a story about a widow?
3. Why did the widow go to the judge? Someone was treating her badly.
4. Why did she think a judge could help her? That was his job.
5. Did the judge care about her problem? Not at all.
6. Did the judge want to help her? Nope
7. Why do you think the judge didn't care?
8. What did the widow do when the judge shooed her away? She came back and asked for help again.
9. Did the judge change his mind? Not at first.
10. Why did the judge choose to help her? He was tired of her bothering him. She was persistent.
11. Do you think the judge finally started to care about her? Nope.
12. Do you think God is like the judge? Not at all.
13. Does God want us to keep asking Him for help even like a hundred times?
14. Does God love it when we pray even if it is the same prayer?