

vineyard resources



# The 5-STEP Prayer Model ...for Kids!

With  
Coloring  
Pages!

**FOR PARENTS, TEACHERS...AND KIDS!**

Teaching Children To Pray From  
A Classic Vineyard Approach



## An Intergenerational Family

**The Vineyard family values kids.** We believe that every age is crucial to reaching our generation with the Good News of Jesus – and if we want to talk about reaching the ends of the earth, we must talk about children.

Because we believe in the power of prayer, and because we believe that God responds to loving obedience at any age, we can be intentional about training our kids to pray for others. We have a long history in the Vineyard of seeing God “show up” in times of prayer, miraculously touching people in many ways. And every time the Holy Spirit touches people, the church of Jesus Christ grows.

This booklet explains what we call the “5-Step Prayer Model” in a way that children can understand. Kids across our movement are seeing God do miracles as they learn to use it to pray for others. While it’s just a guideline for praying, thousands over the past few decades have used it as a helpful “track to run on” – and have seen Jesus do great things through them. Through short Bible lessons (for parents and teachers) and coloring pages (for young ones), it is intended to give you a tool for teaching our youngest to hear God as they pray.

Let’s encourage the children in our care to lead the way in faith as we teach them that everybody gets to play in God’s kingdom.

For the glory of God and the well-being of people (young and old),

**Phil Strout**  
Vineyard USA National Director

**Coloring Page Sketch & Concept:**  
Emma Mack, Vineyard Kid, Age 12

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## Our Kids Can Learn To Pray!

**Dear Kids,**

This booklet has been written just for you!

Did you know that when Jesus lived on earth he treated kids as special? He wanted kids to feel that they could come to him any time because his kingdom is a place for kids. Jesus loves kids!

He told his friends that they needed to be more like kids if they wanted to be important in God's kingdom. He warned them against treating kids as unimportant. In fact kids are so important to God that he has his angels watch over them.

Before Jesus went back to heaven, he told his friends to go and do what he did. If you're a follower of Jesus, that means you, too.

One way to be like Jesus is to pray for your family, friends, or anyone else who needs Jesus. Jesus loves to hear you pray. He wants you to care for people who are hurting like he does. He wants to use you to bring his healing to people.

In this booklet you will learn how to boldly pray for others.

Won't it be fun to help Jesus bring his love and hope to your world?

**Becky Olmstead**  
**Vineyard USA Children's Task Force Leader**

# For Parents & Teachers

**Everyone can pray! Everyone can learn to pray!**

If you are a parent or teacher of kids, we can all TEACH our kids how to pray. One of the greatest joys of working with kids is watching them discover new things. It's especially great when they learn things that will carry them their whole life through AND keep them close to Jesus. Learning to pray is one of those "lifelong gifts" our kids will always have... all through their lives.

That's the purpose of this booklet! It is designed to help YOU help KIDS learn to pray! It is designed to help kids AND adults practice praying like Jesus did.

Why the "5-Step Prayer Model?" Well, the 5-Step Prayer Model is a simple tool for teaching prayer that has a long history in the Vineyard movement and beyond. In the Vineyard, we've learned that God is a God who wants to speak to us by His Spirit when we pray.

This model helps us all to learn that God doesn't ONLY want us to pray nice things for people (that's important, but it's not all) – He wants us to learn to *listen* and pray the things HE puts on our hearts to pray!

People of ALL AGES have learned to hear God's voice as they pray for others. People of ALL AGES have learned to pray in a way that invites God's Spirit to do miraculous things like healing, giving a special message to someone, or even helping a person discover their next step.

PRAYER IS FOR EVERYONE!

This little booklet has 5 lessons that you can use to teach kids AND adults how to pray according to the 5 simple steps of the model. These steps will help them learn to pray the prayers God wants them to pray for others.

Each lesson has an **Introduction** to help you get started, a **Bible Story**, one **Step** in the prayer model, some **Questions** you can ask the kids, and a **Coloring Page** to help reinforce the lesson. Then, after the Coloring Page, we give you some added **Next Steps** that you can do to teach your kids to join Jesus in his work as they pray.

**Let's teach our kids to pray in a way that they can see God working through them! Bless you as you use this material to teach your kids the 5-Step Prayer Model!**

# Step #1 Ask.

“How can  
I pray  
for you?”

## INTRODUCTION

Jesus was the leader of a special group of men called the disciples... simple people that were part of Jesus' main group. Jesus taught the disciples to *do what he did*. He taught them how to pray for the sick and hurting. Then the disciples were sent out to practice what Jesus taught them – just like we are doing today. One chapter in the book of Acts in the Bible tells the story of some of Jesus' disciples and how they prayed for a lame man – and he was healed! Listen to this story about Peter and John and the guy who couldn't walk.

**READ:** Acts 3:1-13a

## STEP 1 - ASK

Be brave and ASK, “How can I pray for you?” (focus on verses 1-6 in the story).

1. What did the man who couldn't walk want? (*Money*)
2. When Peter got this information, what did he do? (*Peter offered what he could give – a prayer*)
3. Where are some places we might find someone to pray for?
4. Who are some people we might pray for? Do we have to know them?

## THE COLORING PAGE

On the next page, you'll find an example of Step 1 - ASK. Be brave enough to say “Hi” to someone, then ASK them what they would like you to pray with them about! Color the drawing on the next page, and add stuff if you like!

#1  
Ask.





“How  
can I  
pray  
for  
you?”

# Step #1 – Planning To Be Brave!

“This is my command – be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9 (NLT)

## Your Memory Verse

Memorize this Bible verse to help you have the courage to pray for people.

Say the verse over and over again until you can say it by heart – without looking at the page!

Some things you can do to help you get brave for prayer...

Put a sticky note by your toothbrush that says, “Ask God to help me be brave and ready to pray.”

Choose one of your friends in your class at church. Go to them and ask them if you can practice praying for them.

Ask your Mom or Dad or Grandma or someone in your family, “How can I pray for you?”



# Step #2 Invite.

“Holy Spirit,  
please  
come.”

## INTRODUCTION

After Jesus rose from the grave, he hung out with his disciples awhile. He knew he would leave soon, but he didn't leave them empty-handed. He told his crew to wait until they received the Holy Spirit... and boy, did they receive it (but that's another story)! So, when Peter and John met the lame man, they had the power of the Holy Spirit. Just like Jesus could heal and pray for people, Peter and John were ready to do the same – and so can we! Remember the lame man they met by the gate? Listen to what happened next!

**READ:** Acts 3:4-6

## STEP 2 - INVITE

1. What did Peter say to the man before he prayed for him? (*We don't have money, but I'll give you what I have*)
2. What did Peter and John have to give? (*A prayer with power from the Holy Spirit to heal*)
3. What did Peter say in his prayer to the man? (*In the name of Jesus, get up and walk!*)
4. Who put the power inside of Peter to pray so bravely? (*The Holy Spirit that came like Jesus promised*)
5. Can anyone ask the Holy Spirit to come and bring power when they pray?

## THE COLORING PAGE

On the next page, you'll find a picture of some kids practicing Step 2, and inviting the Holy Spirit. Color it in and add some more people praying if you like!

# 2  
Invite.





“Holy  
Spirit,  
please  
come.”

# Step #2 - Inviting The Holy Spirit!

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

John 14:26 NIV

## Your Memory Verse

Memorize this Bible verse to help you invite the Holy Spirit to come as you pray.

Say the verse over and over again until you can say it by heart - without looking at the page!

Some things you can do to learn about the Holy Spirit...

Sit still and invite the Holy Spirit. Wait. How did you feel? Did you feel anything special - like goose bumps or warm hands?

Sit still somewhere and invite the Holy Spirit. Wait. What came to your mind? Did you see a picture or an image in your head?

Get a family member to pray and invite the Holy Spirit. Wait. How did you both feel? Did any pictures or images come to mind?

# Step #3 Pray.

“Dear God,  
please  
help my  
friend.”

## INTRODUCTION

When Jesus was teaching his crew, the disciples, some people asked him about the things he did – like healing people and helping people that were different than everyone else. Jesus told them that he was doing and saying what he got from the Father. Jesus paid attention to what God was doing by watching and listening to God. When Peter and John met the lame man, they listened to God and prayed for him to walk instead of giving him money. Peter told the man, “I don’t have any money, but I’ll give you what I can... get up and walk.” Peter’s eyes told him the man couldn’t walk, and the Holy Spirit brought the power to command the man to walk! When we pray, we must be ready to watch and listen like Jesus and his disciples!

**READ:** Acts 3:5-6

## STEP 3 - PRAY

1. How did Peter learn how to pray? Who did he watch and listen to? (*Jesus*)
2. Why did Peter pray for the man to walk? (*Because he could SEE his bad legs and knew God loved the man and wanted him to walk*)
3. How did Peter pray? (*He commanded the man to get up and walk in Jesus’ name*)
4. Who else can watch and then pray – and see people healed like Peter? (*People who follow Jesus, who watch and listen – like us!*)
5. How can we practice watching and listening when we pray?

## THE COLORING PAGE

Check out the next page and color it. Add your ideas of people that you can pray for.

# 3  
Pray.





“Dear  
God,  
please  
help my  
friend.”

# Step #3 – Watching And Listening!

“Open my eyes  
that I may see  
wonderful things ...”

Psalms 119:18 (NIV)

## Your Memory Verse

Memorize this Bible verse to help you watch and listen to what the Holy Spirit is doing in a person's life.

Say the verse over and over again until you can say it by heart – without looking at the page!

Some things you can do to practice hearing and seeing God in prayer...

Take turns praying and watching with a friend. What is God doing? Do you see tears? Smiles?

Look around the room at church. Watch quietly for one minute. Did you see anything you could pray for? If so, pray!

Sit in a circle with friends. Each friend can share one prayer request. Listen hard and pray for the person God tells you to pray for.



# Step #4 Check.

“What is  
God  
doing?”

## INTRODUCTION

Peter and John, the guys in our story, knew Jesus. They followed him as their teacher. They saw what Jesus did and listened to what he taught them. Then, they did it. One time, Jesus prayed for a blind man. It was weird; Jesus put mud on the man's eyes. Then Jesus asked him what he saw. The man could see, but not really well. Jesus prayed again and the man could *totally* see. Jesus CHECKED with the person he prayed for and then responded. In our story, Peter commanded the lame man to walk and then helped the man up to see if it worked. Peter didn't try to guess what God was doing for the lame man – he checked! We can always ask our friends and others what God is doing when we pray for them. We can keep it real – just like Jesus. Just like Peter.

**READ:** Acts 3:7-8

## STEP 4 - CHECK

1. What happened to the man's legs when Peter picked him up? (*His feet and ankles grew strong*)
2. How did Peter and John know that God answered Peter's prayer? (*The man leaped and danced with joy*)
3. What did the people in the temple think when they saw the lame man jumping around? (*They remembered he was the lame beggar and they were amazed*)
4. What are some other ways we can find out what God is doing when we pray? (*Ask the person, see if they are crying or smiling, ask them to do something they couldn't do before with a part of their body that was hurting*)

## THE COLORING PAGE

Check out the next page and color it. Add your words about how the boy is feeling during the girl's prayer.

# 4  
Check.





“What  
is God  
doing?”

# Step #4 – Checking In!

See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?"

Isaiah 43:19a (NLT)

## Your Memory Verse

Memorize this Bible verse to help you stop and ask the person what God is doing inside of them.

Say the verse over and over again until you can say it by heart – without looking at the page!

Some things you can do to find out what God is doing when you pray...

Be brave and ask a friend if you can pray for them. Watch, listen, & pray. Ask your friend what they feel. Pray again.

Be brave & ask a friend to pray for YOU! Tell them your need, then pray! Share what God did. Practice praying by getting prayer! :-)

Be really brave and pray for a sick person. Pray, watch & listen. Ask how they feel. Better? The same? Would they like more prayer?

# Step #5 Plan.

“Let’s  
pray  
again  
sometime.”

## INTRODUCTION

God is the one who heals. He led Peter and John to pray for the lame man. When they prayed, he was healed immediately. It was really quick and it made the people all around think about Jesus. The lame man’s miracle helped Peter tell them more about God’s kingdom. Sometimes God answers prayers quickly and people are really impressed. Sometimes God answers prayers later and people learn to be patient and trust God. One guy in the Bible, named Elijah, prayed for years and God answered his prayers slowly and daily. Elijah learned that God had a plan, and that it is okay to pray about that plan everyday – and not just once. That’s what we can remember. It’s God’s job to heal whenever He’s ready. It’s our job to pray – and we can do that as many times as needed.

**READ:** Acts 3:9-12a

## STEP 5 - PLAN (It’s not really over!)

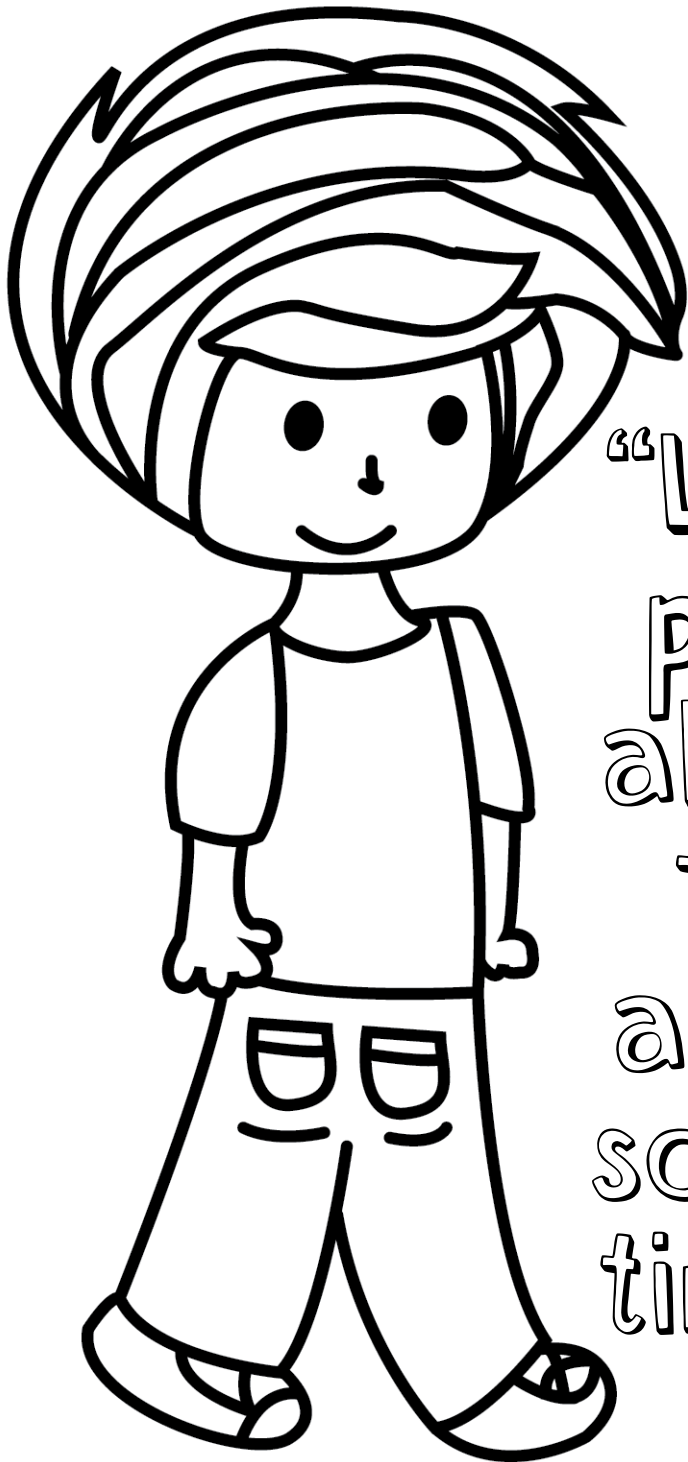
1. What did the people in the temple think when they saw the lame man jumping around? (*They remembered he was the lame beggar and they were amazed*)
2. What did Peter do when he saw all the people being amazed? (*He talked to them about Jesus and God’s kingdom*)
3. Can you name some times in your life when God answered your prayer quickly? How about times when the answers came more slowly?
4. How can we make a plan to pray with people if God’s answer is coming slowly? (*We can see them at church, and keep them on our list*)

## THE COLORING PAGE

Color this next page, and think about if the boy is getting his answer quickly or if the girl needs to make a plan to pray again.

#5  
Plan.





“Let’s  
pray  
about  
this  
again  
some-  
time.”



The Vineyard Movement, since birth, has valued seeing individual Christians experience God in their daily lives. Through spiritual practices such as worship, fellowship, mission, the reading and application of Scripture, soul care, family care, healing of the broken, cultural influence, the compassionate ministry of the Holy Spirit, and loving our neighbor, the Vineyard community of churches seeks to be intentional about nurturing the lives of those who call us their family. To find out more about the Vineyard, visit [www.vineyardusa.org](http://www.vineyardusa.org).

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