Lesson #26 Hebrews 13:15-25 May 6, 2015

Here is part of a verse I want us to learn together. The first three words of Hebrews 13:18 are, "Pray for us." Can you say that part of the verse with me? "Pray for us." One more time! "Pray for us." Now you know the first part of Hebrews 13:18. "Pray for us." The Christian leaders during that time wanted the people to pray for them.

So, what does it mean to pray? Prayer means talking to God. It's telling him what you love about Him (praise). It's thanking Him for what He's done. It's confessing what you've done wrong and asking Him to forgive you. Prayer is asking God for what you need and want and praying for others. Prayer is wonderful!

God hears our prayers. Prayer changes things. It makes God happy when we take the time to pray to Him and believe that He is going to answer.

Did you know that praying for someone else is a powerful thing? The Bible tells us to pray for one another. People who are in leadership especially need our prayers. After all, they're just people! Can you help me make a list of some of the leaders in our lives that we can pray for? (For the younger kids, make a verbal list, for the older ones you can write it on the board. Some people on the list could be the President of the U.S., mom, dad, teacher, pastor, coach, etc.)

Just because they are leaders does that mean they are perfect? No! How might these people need our prayers? They need our prayers for wisdom and the brains to know what to do and how to lead! They need our prayers for strength, energy, patience...

We also need to pray that we will be good followers. Is it hard to obey your coach or your teachers, or your parents? Sometimes it is! But, the Bible says we can help our leaders' work be a joy to them by being good followers—which not only helps them, but it also helps us!

Let's take some time now to pray for the leaders God has put in our lives. (Ask the kids to raise their hand if they want to pray for the president, or a coach, or their parent...Ask them to pray for you, their teacher! Then, begin a short time of prayer. End your prayer time by thanking God for our leaders and the reminder today to pray for them.)

Bible Verse: "Pray for us." Hebrews 13:18a

Grow At Home #26 Hebrews 13:15-25 May 6, 2015

Today the children learned this God fact:

• We need to pray for our leaders.

Live It Out: Today we talked about prayer and that part of our prayer time should include praying for others. We learned that the writer of Hebrews and other leaders wanted the people to pray for them.

Make a verbal or written list with your child of some of the leaders in their lives. Your list may include coaches, teachers, parents and even the president! Then spend time this week at the dinner table or before bed praying together for those leaders. Remind your child that leaders are just people. They aren't perfect and they can use our prayers to know how to lead in the right way. The only perfect leader is God!

Prayer: "Lord, thank you for the leaders you've put into our lives. Help them to lead well. May we be good followers, which will not only make their job easier, but also benefit us!"

Bible Verse: "Pray for us." Hebrews 13:18a