**Ways for kids to pray:**

(The big joke is that all of these are totally useful to adults and translate over perfectly!)

Pray over a map

* Wall or floor maps are great, the bigger the better
* variation to write prayers on stick notes and places them on or around the map

Wave banners

* Talk about speaking blessing banners, letting kids move, tactile expression

Sing and dance

* Emphasize freedom, maybe good types of songs and beats
* Perhaps talk about using different tempos for different prayer styles

Write a poem and pray it out

* Can use many forms of poetry, even assigning short thinks like a haiku for a group to create and pray out, can work well with a sharing time at the end to “pray through” over certain topics
* Countless ways to utilize this in personal and group experiences, has a real power to bring forth the creative side of people and release passionate prayers

Give specific prayer assignments for flurry prayer

* Basically taking people before going into Korean style prayer, specific direction very helpful for kids and adults

Prayer of Examen

* Can be done in simple ways, listening for one ting God wants to bring up and praying about it

Keep prayer journal

* Largely a personal thing, but also great to have group prayer journals at events
* Personally useful to do a 2 way journal where listening is recorded after personal entry

Compile prayer notes and share

* Gather notes from a prayer gathering and find a way to distribute them, this is great at generating more prayer, discerning things God is saying, and giving something for continued post event prayer

Thankfulness activity, scrapbook, journal, collage etc.

* Use magazines and craft materials to find or create images representing points of thankfulness, use those for events or as an ongoing tool in the home/prayer room

Make prayer collages

* Same as above using magazines or pictures
* Digital projects are great for computer backgrounds, such as weekly meditations and a background image that represents that focus

Draw pictures

* for any kind of prayer expression, to put it down on paper, wonderful to use for ongoing prayers and remind kids of things to pray for

Prayer walk in city or nature

* can simply be movement while praying, kids are often very engaged despite the surroundings
* have very open environment of “inspiration”, let anything be a idea generator for praying
* can be used far more extensively when an area is well researched and you know key sites, streets, etc.
* if you can get into nature, it’s a great to especially focus on the attributes of God and practice listening, stations of a sort are useful for this, with older kids good to disperse in smaller groups and let them pray freely in a designated boundary

Pray a scripture

* Key point is limiting them to pray it exactly or within focus of verse, depending on age

ABC prayers

* Take turns praying over something that starts with that letter, and move on to next letter for next prayer. Great for popcorn prayer

Write a letter to Jesus

* Excellent for personal use and to do it as someone from a host people or friend

Draw circles

* This is a great thing for blessing/removing. Jump in and out of a circle to with add or take away things from a situation
* alternate is to form up in the outline of a country or region and face all outward or all inward for same prayers
* good to do over a sick person, particularly if you want the kids not making contact!

Wall of bricks

* use for just about anything, great one is praise, you write a name or praise of god on an index card and then start building a wall of prayer, brick by brick

Wall of prayer

* use butcher paper to cover an entire wall and use it for writing prayers, can be developed over time or used for a specific prayer time

Cube of prayer

* have a paper cube with 6 prayer focui, roll the cube and pray over whatever is face up
* great example is social groups – moms, dads, kids, poor people, rulers, etc.

Power prayer for short times like 1-5 minutes with timer

* have a set time and everyone tries to cram as much prayer into that time as possible, rotate topics and emphasize that we want to get all the pray out that we can over a topic, this one can be great fun and teaches much more than it may look like in the fun

Times to only praise/bless

* just setting parameter to only praise, or only bless, helpful in exposing to different forms of prayer and not just petition

Makeup a song and play or drum if possible

* creative lyrics or phrases and put it to a beat, even have partners help eachother, and repeat the melodic prayer over the people, nation

Do some kind of rotation through stances of prayer, physically moving your body

* Pray the 7 Hebrew meanings of praise
* Salat or variation
* Positions like prostrate, laying down, bended knees, hands folded, eyes closed, eyes open, standing, walking, holding hands, etc.

Keys and a door

* making statements using the “keys” we are given, and unlock or lock the door accordingly, note that there should be some degree of serious reflection, not to flippantly stand on this truth

Scavenger hunt for prayer papers/objects

* could be people, prayer points, people groups, etc. Hide papers in the provided space and people go out looking for them

Pray a color

* Everything you can imagine that color give thanks, can be fun for thematic prayers

Use sounds instead of words

* Encourage them to do any sound they can imagine as a prayer
* Examples: crying for injustice, whooping for victory, all manner of war sounds for spiritual warfare, gasps for awe at god, etc.

Build a house of prayer

* Use popsicles or other wood or paper and write prayers on it, glue things together to construct the house of prayer, can be a simple design or more detailed if you have a project manager
* Can use this at an event when superglue is present, other adhesives take a while and will usually need several days to complete a project, the key is to have this well planned out

Prayer quilt

* For an event have sections prepared, or have people bring fabric that can be used for the quilt

Praying with food

* Use symbolic meaning like bread hunger for Jesus, sweets for God is good, etc. great if you can use significant or ethnic food for people groups or friends
* As a family discipline, fasting instead of eating these things is an effective way to train in prayer and have fasting that is accessible to kids

Paper prayer chain

* Used as a blessing tool or a breaking exercise, one strung up to stay another to be torn apart
* If linking two locations, such as adopting a region by a community, use a map or country outlines and create a link with the chain

Notes/prayers of encouragement

* These can be written an offered up as prayers privately
* Mix them all up and the pass them out with small groups praying out whatever they receive
* Physically send them to people or local fellowships to encourage them

Pray in random weird spots

* Fun and great way to teach a lifestyle of unceasing prayer, no spot is too weird!
* Variation to think up places important to host culture and go to those spots physically if possible or symbolically, most spaces can be recreated with props and used as a station

Musical chairs prayer on each seat

* Play the game like normal, and as you are “out” you lead out in praying the thing on your seat
* Can be good to allow others to join in on the topic

Research and prayer

* Have child do some research on s specific social reality or people, and pray out of what is learned, excellent way to teach a marriage of mind and heart in prayer

Use starter prayers

* Have some kind of short phrase that is the beginning of a pray, eg. “Lord, I bless X with…” then let the kids fill in the rest, good for little ones and can cycle through various phrases for variety and focused engagement

Balloon prayer

* write praise on balloon and say it every time you hit that balloon up, close with a fun balloon popping amen

Beach ball prayer

* have a prayer topic, a person prays and then tosses the ball to the next person, that person prays before passing it on, great way to get the introverts speaking out loud

Weapon prayer, swords, guns etc.

* Great for “battle” oriented prayer or prayer for breakthrough, best if done with good preparation nd clear boundaries so kids don’t wander into arenas of prayer to invite demonic retaliation on them or a gathering – but God can lead them along much surer than most adults!

Lego stuff - Oh the endless options!

* Circles and trash/presents, praying over people, encircling a nation
* Good guys and bad guys, using them and moving around or knocking them down for opposite spirit, endless ways to use minifigures
* Use it like artistic expressions, anything can be built, acts recreated
* Build a tower of prayer, have people pick up a lego and add to the tower, use a clear and well diagramed design, or have an project overseer to assure the tower can keep going up

Use or create liturgies of prayer for repeat activities of the day

* Home or group use is good, if there are key verses place these at dining and snack locations, bathrooms, entry ways, etc. and ask everyone to pray a quick prayer whenever they visit
* Can be more involved letting the group help craft the posted prayers, or some short liturgy they can use at the start of every meeting
* Can be very useful in bringing understanding between different streams of faith

Make a family daily prayer

* Same as liturgy idea but useful for home
* If families are praying together at a gathering, can be neat to have time for tem to start building up a daily family prayer if they don’t have one already

Prayer place mats

* Similar to a collage, but laminate the finals product and use it as a place mat to encourage ongoing prayer

Just about any prophetic act

* More or less anything can be done, so long as it’s safe and legal
* Examples are pouring out perfume, constructing and breaking things, doing things with your body, walking to certain places, eating a certain meal, swinging a sword, etc.

Stations of the cross

* Great to do this as stations around a room
* Can prepare specific prayers from event topic that are relevant to the station
* Variation to have a living station at the front of the space where drama team acts out that specific moment of the passion, can do with small groups, mic, etc.

Dress up as someone

* This can include friends, people group representatives, biblical characters, etc.
* Dressing up in a mantle someone has heard from the Lord, so if someone says “a spirit of david” over someone they can dress up as David, or if someone will be a “deliverer” maybe dress up like moses, many more to choose from!
* Note to be careful with known friends, protect against slander and joking
* Variation to make a paper mask for the sake of “standing in”
* Can become a drama to live out a prayer over a people

Look at faces of friends or people group and pray over them

* Places faces of a people on printouts or PP slide, choose them as is relevant to the prayer topic, of it’s a broad topic such as a people group or town, select a variety of individuals
* Variation to have someone stand in for the face so people are able to pray with a laying on of hands, best to select a similar person in gender, age, etc.

Pray the day of the week

 Magnet and paper clip on hand

Prayer Tshirt

Blessing basket