



The Circle Maker Family Table Talk

Week 1: Becoming a Circle Maker

This week we learned about Joshua and the Wall of Jericho (Joshua 6:1 – 16). From Joshua's story, we discovered God always keeps His promises, and just like the Israelites, we too can draw a circle around the impossible situations in our lives and invite God to help us. We can be Circle Makers!

Circle Maker Motto: God is looking for Circle Makers who know His promises and pray His promises.

Circle Maker Memory Verse: "Tell God about everything. Ask and pray." (Philippians 4:6b, NIrV)

Table Talk Discussion Questions

Note: Feel free to adapt these questions to fit the needs of your family dynamic and the comprehension level of the child(ren) in your home.

- How would you define prayer? (*remember, praying is talking to God*)
- Is there a "proper" prayer position? Explain. (*ideas include sitting, kneeling, standing*)
- Do you find it easy or hard to pray? What's the hardest part, and why?
- Can we only pray at certain times or in certain places? (*No, we can pray anytime and anywhere. God loves it when we talk to him!*)
- What does being a Circle Maker mean to you?
- Parents, share a personal story of a time you prayed one of God's promises. Was the answer yes, no, or wait? Remember, stories make lessons stick!

Circle Makers in Action

- Work on helping your child memorize this week's memory verse. You might recite it together in the car on the way to an activity or read through it several times this week before bedtime. Maybe you'd like to write it on an index card to hang on the bathroom mirror. Do whatever works for you!
- Hang the Circle Maker Family Prayer Calendar in a place where it will be noticed often (refrigerator, bathroom mirror, car dashboard). Discuss when would be a convenient time to put the prayer prompts into action each day (in the morning, in the car, mealtime, or bedtime). Ask God to help you know His promises and pray His promises. **Note:** If you miss a day or two, it's okay. The goal is progress, not perfection.

"Drawing prayer circles starts with discerning what God wants, what God wills. And until His sovereign will becomes your sanctified wish, your prayer life will be unplugged from its power source."

— Mark Batterson, *The Circle Maker*



The Circle Maker Family Table Talk

Week 2: Cloudy with a Chance of Quail

This week we heard how God provided manna and quail for the Israelites so they never went hungry (Numbers 11). We learned that we can trust God to give us what we need too. God always keeps His promises, and He is faithful in everything He does.

Circle Maker Motto: God is looking for Circle Makers who know His promises and pray His promises.

Circle Maker Memory Verse:

Preschool & Early Elementary: “The LORD will keep all his promises.” (Psalm 145:13b, NIV)

Later Elementary: “The LORD will keep all his promises. He is faithful in everything he does.” (Psalm 145:13b, NIV)

Table Talk Discussion Questions

- What did God provide for the Israelites to eat? (*manna and quail*) How would you have liked the menu if you were a part of Moses’ clan?
- How was God’s answer to Moses’ prayer above and beyond what Moses could have ever imagined? (*God performed a miracle and sent enough quail to feed the people for a whole month.*) Explain.
- How does God provide for our family’s needs? How does he provide for our wants?
- Parents, share a personal story of a time when God answered your prayers in ways that were beyond your wildest dreams.

Circle Makers in Action

- Work on helping your child memorize this week’s memory verse. You might recite it together in the car on the way to an activity or read through it several times this week before bedtime. Maybe you’d like to write it on an index card to hang on the bathroom mirror. Do whatever works for you!
- **21-Day Prayer Challenge:** God loves to take small, ordinary, and surprising people to accomplish huge things for His glory. Try a prayer challenge starting today, and for the next twenty-one days. As a family, select a time that you will pray every day. Jot down that time in a notebook, and then pick a place you will go consistently to meet with God in prayer. Finally, identify a specific person, promise, or problem you will circle in prayer every day for the coming three weeks. Be sure to keep this appointment with God every day and see what He accomplishes in and through you.

“Never underestimate the power of a single prayer. God can do anything through anyone who circles their big dreams with bold prayers. With God, there is no precedent, because all things are possible.”

— Mark Batterson, *The Circle Maker*



The Circle Maker Family Table Talk

Week 3: Praying Hard and Praying Through

It's easy to give up when praying feels hard or we don't get our way. But that's not how Jesus taught us to pray! This week we heard the parable of the persistent widow, and how she never gave up praying (Luke 18:1 – 5). We learned that we should also always pray and never give up, believe God is faithful, and choose to pray God's promises.

Circle Maker Motto: God is looking for Circle Makers who know His promises and pray His promises.

Circle Maker Memory Verse:

Preschool & Early Elementary: “Never stop praying.” (1 Thessalonians 5:17, NIV)

Later Elementary: “Never stop praying. Give thanks no matter what happens.” (1 Thessalonians 5:17 – 18a, NIV)

Table Talk Discussion Questions

- Using your own Bible, review the parable of the persistent widow (Luke 18:1 – 5). What did the widow want? (*She wanted to make something right.*) What did she do? (*She kept asking until the judge granted her request.*)
- What do you think Jesus wanted us to learn from the persistent widow parable? (*Possible answers include: He wanted us to never give up praying; He wanted us to know that God is not like the unjust judge but loves us so much that He wants what is best for us.*)
- Can you think of any situations in your own life where you want to trust God to help you to never give up?
- Why do you think God answers some prayers right away but not others?
- Parents, share a personal story of a time when you prayed persistently about something, waiting for God's answer and trusting that He knew best.

Circle Makers in Action

- Work on helping your child memorize this week's memory verse. You might recite it together in the car on the way to an activity or read through it several times this week before bedtime. Maybe you'd like to write it on an index card to hang on the bathroom mirror. Do whatever works for you!
- **Praying Through Your Calendar:** Take time to pray through your family calendar instead of just looking through it. It's amazing what a difference it makes when you pray circles around the people you will be meeting. It turns appointments into divine appointments. Make a point of praying through the new week before you live it. Circle many things in prayer — people, meetings, sports events, practices, tests, deadlines, anything the Holy Spirit stirs in your heart.

“Praying hard is standing on the promises of God. And when we stand on His word, God stands by His word. His word is His bond.”

— Mark Batterson, *The Circle Maker*



The Circle Maker Family Table Talk

Week 4: Praying Is Like Planting

This week we learned how Daniel knew God's promises and prayed God's promises. (Daniel 9 – 10). We also discovered praying is like planting. While we wait and pray, we can be confident that God hears and will answer our prayers.

Circle Maker Motto: God is looking for Circle Makers who know His promises and pray His promises.

Circle Maker Memory Verse:

Preschool & Early Elementary: "I wait for the LORD to help me." (Psalm 130:5a, NIV)

Later Elementary: "With all my heart I wait for the LORD to help me. I put my hope in his word." (Psalm 130:5, NIV)

Table Talk Discussion Questions

- Do you find it hard or easy to wait on God?
- Using your own Bible, review Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9. What can we learn from Daniel and his commitment to prayer? (*Possible answers: Daniel prayed when he didn't know what to do; he prayed for twenty-one days until he got an answer to his prayer.*)
- What "prayer seeds" have you planted that you are still waiting for God to answer?
- Parents, share a personal story of a time when you had to wait patiently, much longer than you wanted to wait. How did this shape and form you? How might the experience have ended differently if you would have rushed things?

Circle Makers in Action

- Work on helping your child memorize this week's memory verse. You might recite it together in the car on the way to an activity or read through it several times this week before bedtime. Maybe you'd like to write it on an index card to hang on the bathroom mirror. Do whatever works for you!
- **Try a New Prayer Posture:** The Bible prescribes a wide variety of prayer postures, such as kneeling (Psalm 95:6 – 7), falling prostrate on one's face (Nehemiah 8:5 – 6), standing (Nehemiah 8:5 – 6), lifting one's hands (Psalm 141:2), and laying on of hands (Luke 4:40). Physical postures help posture our hearts and minds. Try a new posture of prayer as a family this week and see if this helps you focus on God with greater intensity.

"Each prayer is like a seed that gets planted in the ground. It disappears for a season, but it eventually bears fruit that blesses future generations. In fact, our prayers bear fruit forever."

— Mark Batterson, *The Circle Maker*

The Circle Maker Family Prayer Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Week 1, Day 1	Week 1, Day 2	Week 1, Day 3	Week 1, Day 4	Week 1, Day 5	Week 1, Day 6	Week 1, Day 7
Psalm 119:105 Thank God for His Bible. Ask Him to help you know His promises.	Philippians 4:6b What are three things you can tell God about today?	Joshua 1:5 – 9 What promises did God make to Joshua before Joshua encountered Jericho?	Luke 1:37 What impossible thing did God do for Joshua and the Israelites? (See Joshua 6:1 – 20 for the answer.)	Joshua 24:15 – 17 Ask God to help you trust Him as Joshua and the Israelites did.	Psalm 34:4 Talk to God about things that make you feel afraid or lonely.	Isaiah 41:10 Tell God today about one way you need His strength.
Week 2, Day 1	Week 2, Day 2	Week 2, Day 3	Week 2, Day 4	Week 2, Day 5	Week 2, Day 6	Week 2, Day 7
Go on a family walk or bike ride. Thank God for things you see.	Psalm 145:13b Ask a grown-up: How has God been faithful in your life?	Matthew 6:25 – 30 How does God care for birds and flowers? Thank Him for taking care of you too!	Psalm 95:6 Try kneeling while you sing a worship song to God.	Matthew 6:31 – 33 Why don't you need to worry? Thank God for His promise to care for you.	Mark 1:35 Find a place to be alone and pray quietly today.	James 1:5 Tell God about a situation in which you need His wisdom.
Week 3, Day 1	Week 3, Day 2	Week 3, Day 3	Week 3, Day 4	Week 3, Day 5	Week 3, Day 6	Week 3, Day 7
Look in the church bulletin for prayer requests. Pray together as a family.	1 Thessalonians 5:17 How often should you pray? Thank God for always hearing your prayers.	Philippians 4:19 How many of your needs does God promise to take care of? Thank Him!	Matthew 7:7 – 11 Ask. Seek. Knock. Don't stop!	Philippians 4:8 What can you think about that will please God?	1 Peter 5:7 Why should you turn your worries over to God? Thank Him for His love and care.	1 Samuel 1:10 – 11 What did Hannah pray for? How did God answer her prayer?
Week 4, Day 1	Week 4, Day 2	Week 4, Day 3	Week 4, Day 4	Week 4, Day 5	Week 4, Day 6	Week 4, Day 7
Isaiah 9:6 Use one of these names for God as you pray today.	Psalm 130:5 Ask God to help you wait on Him and to trust Him with your whole heart.	Isaiah 48:17 What is a reason God gives us rules? Thank God for His rules.	1 John 4:9 How did God show His love for us? Thank God for this way He showed His love!	Daniel 6:19-23 Tell God about times when you need to trust Him to keep you safe.	Psalm 139: 13 – 14 Thank God for making you the way you are.	Colossians 4:2 God's promises don't have expiration dates. Don't give up!

Circle Makers know God's promises and pray His promises.