



Loop



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Survival Skills

Week 1: Carry a Compass

Big Question

Do you think prayer has the power to change things?

The Verse

Matthew 6:9-13 NLT

“Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.”

Order of Experience

Countdown/Hang Out

Icebreaker in Small Groups

Emcee Welcome

Worship

Emcee Transition to Message

Message/Salvation

Offering

Announcements

Activity/Small Group

Small Group Discussion

Check Out

Small Group Discussion

YouVersion Bible Plan

Make sure students check out the Bible Plan associated with this series:

How to Survive Middle School and Beyond

Icebreaker Question

If you were stuck in the wild, what snack would you want with you to help you survive?

Choose questions for your small group.

1. How good are you at following directions?
2. How can prayer be a way for you to find direction for your life?
3. Read **Matthew 6:9-13 NLT**. How is this prayer Jesus prayed an example of how you can pray? *Ideas: We can come to God with praise for Him, ask for His plan to be done, ask Him for what we need, etc.*
4. Look at your magnet from our game. Which one of these types of prayers would you like to pray more often—and why? *Reminder: Looking BACK with gratitude. Looking UP to praise and focus on God. Looking IN to ask forgiveness and for help to change what you need to change. Looking AROUND to ask for help for the needs of the people around you. Looking FORWARD to share your hopes and dreams with God.*
5. Where can you hang your magnet to help you remember to pray these types of prayers?
6. Why do you think God sometimes doesn’t answer our prayers the way we ask? *He knows more than we do. Sometimes what might be good for us is bad for someone else. We can’t always understand why He doesn’t answer the way we wanted, but we can trust He is still good and can still help us get through difficult times, etc.*

Leader Notes/Announcements

- *Promote **Swerve** and **Switch** to your 6th grade students.
- *Challenge students to bring a friend with them next week.
- *Tell your students about the **YouVersion Bible Plan**, and encourage them to complete it together as a group or with their families using Plans with Friends.