

PRAYER

Prayer is a powerful way in communicating to Christ. Many Christians pray for healing, health issues, salvation, families, and the future. Prayer is also way in which we as Christians come together in the time of need, difficult situations, and joyous occasions. Without prayer, how can a Christian feel connected to Christ and brothers and sisters in Christ? Here are a few questions you can consider discussing with your mentee.

- What is your understanding of prayer?
- What do you pray for?
- Do you ask or tell Christ your needs when you pray?
- Why do you pray?
- How often do you pray?

Mentor

Discuss your experience of prayer. Express your thoughts on the importance and frequency in which you pray. What might be the benefits of prayer to you? You might also want to answer a few questions that you asked your mentee. These three areas are suggested “discussion starters”, biblical foundation, cultural values and activities to help the mentee in practical terms.

Biblical foundation

- 2 Chronicles 7:14, ‘if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.’ (TNIV)
- Proverbs 15:29, ‘The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous.’ (TNIV)

- Matthew 5:44, 'But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,'
(TNIV)

Cultural values

The Cup'ig and Yup'ik people called God Ellam Cua and Ellam Yua, respectively. During the time of missionary contact, many native people were converted to Christianity. Many native people still spoke their native language also. An elder once mentioned a story of witnessing his grandfather praying. According to the elder, his grandfather took a black feather, knelt down and raised the black feather towards the sky saying words as if he was praying. In retrospect, the elder finally realized his grandfather was indeed praying to the creator.

Potential activity

Ask your mentee to pray for things on their mind, it could be family, school, friends, jobs, health, or anything they feel the need for prayer. Ask your mentee to write down after praying; their feelings, their thoughts, a sense of accomplishment, and what they think the next steps might be. The written down insight will give the mentee practical ways in which to view the potential importance and sense of connectivity to Christ.