

FACILITATION HELP: PRESS PAUSE

There may come a time in your group when everyone (including you) might disagree with another student. Maybe they say something that is not true or they come from a faith experience that is different. How you handle this situation is VERY important. Nothing will make a student stop coming to the group like four or five students and a leader ganging up on him or her. We are quick to right wrongs and mistakes but don't really take the time to hear or understand our students. Press the pause button. Take time to understand your students and make sure they are heard.

STUDENT LESSON
VIDEO

How do you think about God when you pray?

AwanaJourney.com

CORE
CONCEPTS

Prayer is a conversation based
on a loving relationship with our
heavenly Father!

ESSENTIALS QUESTION: HOW WOULD YOUR PRAYER TIME CHANGE IF YOU INVITED YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER INTO A CONVERSATION ABOUT YOUR NEEDS AND DESIRES?

STUDENT DISCUSSION 1:

WHAT DOES ABBA MEAN AND HOW DOES IT CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE ABOUT GOD?

Allow students to answer the question before helping them out. Abba is the Hebrew word for *father*. Students may have a myriad of perspectives of the word or meaning of father. Allow them to talk this out, but lead them to the conclusion that God is perfect, holy, and loving; therefore, He is the most gracious and compassionate father.

If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! (Matthew 7:11)

STUDENT DISCUSSION 2:

IN YOUR MIND, WHICH THREE PRAYERS IN THE BIBLE BEST DEMONSTRATE THE KIND OF BOLDNESS AND PERSEVERANCE THAT JESUS IS REFERRING TO IN THIS PASSAGE?

Possible answers may include Nehemiah's prayer in Nehemiah 1, King David asking for God's guidance in Psalm 51, or Paul's appeal on behalf of believers in Philippians 1. There are dozens of powerful prayers in the Bible. Be ready to explain your selection.

STUDENT DISCUSSION 3:

HOW DOES GOD SPEAK TO PEOPLE TODAY?

DROP THE MIC >>

CONCLUDE YOUR DISCUSSION WITH:

- » **ACTION PLAN:** *How do you plan to think and act differently?*
- » **FINAL REFLECTION:** *God isn't a genie who is there to do your bidding. He has opinions and wants to have a conversation.*
- » **FINAL QUESTION:** *Is there anything in your life that you might need to ask God's opinion about?*