



*Nurturing Faith . . .  
Every Day in Every Way*

May 16, 2021

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 4

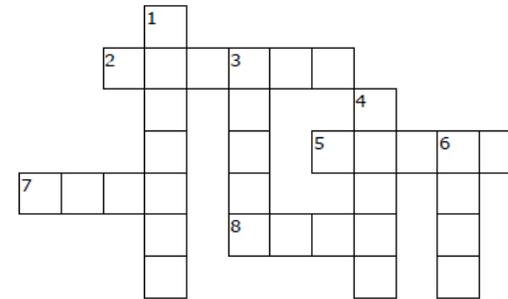
1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19

Good morning friends! Can anyone tell me what prayer is? Prayer is talking to God. When do you pray? You can pray anytime...and anywhere! Prayer is an ongoing conversation. Do you know that we don't even have to use words when we talk to God? God knows our heart before we even mention a word to God but it sure helps to say it out loud. Do we have to pray a certain way, like with our eyes closed and our heads bowed? Nope! We can pray however we feel like it, whether we are running and jumping, riding in a car, or sitting quietly. No matter where, when, or how, God always hears us and takes time to listen.

In our Gospel lesson from John, we hear the story about Jesus getting ready to leave his disciples to be with God, and guess what? Jesus prays! Jesus prays for his friends and in this prayer, he prays for you, too! Jesus asks God to protect all of us and to unify us so that we can be one big family. So, if Jesus prayed, it must be a pretty important thing to do, right? If you don't already pray with your family, now would be a great time to start. You can thank God for all that God has given to you...all of creation, a family, food, and a home. You can ask God to help you with your problems and you can ask God to watch over your family and friends. Remember, no matter where, when, or how, God always hears us when we pray.

**Prayer:** Loving God, thank you for taking the time to listen to us when we call upon you. Thank you for your Son, Jesus who prayed for our protection. Amen.

*Crossword Puzzle*



ACROSS

- 2. Speaking to God
- 5. The earth and all the people and things upon it
- 7. To put into the hands of another person
- 8. To be free from danger or harm

DOWN

- 1. To keep from being injured or harmed
- 3. That which belongs to you
- 4. Physical or mental strength
- 6. Unable to find the way

PROTECT	POWER	GIVE	YOURS
PRAYER	SAFE	LOST	WORLD

**Activity:** On a heavy piece of paper, trace your hand, and cut it out. On each finger, using the guide on the activity page write the corresponding words. Tape up your "hand" so that it can help you pray.

**Discussion Question:** What is your favorite way to pray? How do you know that your prayers have been answered?

**Table prayer for May:** God, help my light to shine as bright as the noonday sun. To walk in your ways, to bring others hope, and share your love with everyone. Amen.

**Memory verse for May:** Proverbs 4:23- Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

# The 5 Finger Prayer

Thumb: Those closest to you, your family.

Pointer: Those that point you in the right direction (teachers, doctors, priests) ask for wisdom & support.

Index: (tallest) Those that lead us, (Government) ask for guidance & wisdom.

Ring: (weakest) Those that are weak, in trouble, or in pain. We cannot pray too much for them.

Pinkie: (smallest) Our prayers for ourselves & our own needs.

