

## 10 THINGS CHILDREN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PRAYER

by Susan Taylor Brown

- 1. Prayer is communication.**  
It can be spoken or silent. It can be a song or a story. It can be a picture or a dance.
- 2. Prayer can be done as often as you like.**  
Every week. Every day. Every hour.
- 3. Prayer can be done however you want.**  
There's no right or wrong way to pray.
- 4. Prayer can be shared, but doesn't have to be.**  
It can be done alone or with a favorite toy. It can be done with friends, family or pets.
- 5. Prayer can be done anywhere.**  
It can be done in your room or at the kitchen table.  
It can be done out in your yard, at the park or even at the zoo.
- 6. Prayer can be done in any mood.**  
You can be happy, sad, angry, scared or confused when you pray.
- 7. Prayer can be for yourself or someone else.**  
If you know someone who could use a little help - add them to your prayers.
- 8. Prayer doesn't need a certain structure, length or specific words.**  
Whatever words you use, long or short, however your prayer comes out is fine.
- 9. Prayer doesn't need a special occasion.**  
There are certain prayers appropriate to special occasions but you don't need to wait for a special time to pray.
- 10. Prayer doesn't have to be a request.**  
It can also be used to give thanks for what you have already received.  
"Thank you," is a perfect prayer.

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Susan Taylor Brown is the author of the children's picture book, *CAN I PRAY WITH MY EYES OPEN?* (ISBN #0786803282) Deciding when and where to pray is something every child wonders and this non-denominational, multicultural book offers an answer. Every child is assured that they can pray when, where, and how they want --- and they will always be heard. The book is available at bookstores everywhere.  
*Booklist* says, "A nice place for parents and children to start a discussion about prayer."

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