

Day of Prayer for the Peace of Jerusalem
Lesson for Ages 3 – 6

Materials: Copy of the lesson
CD of quiet instrumental worship music (e.g. The River Instrumental CD by Eagles' Wings)
CD player
Pennants cut out of felt, craft foam or paper – 1 per child plus one for an example
Small dowel, stick or large craft stick – 1 per child plus 1 for the example pennant
White craft glue
Scissors
Crayons or markers
Puppet Show script
Puppet theatre/area
Two puppets
Watchman Song – can be found at www.daytopray.com in the Resources area

Are you on a Team?

Teacher: How many of you are on a team like a soccer or a T-ball team? (Allow the children to respond)

What if you were the only person on a soccer or T-Ball team, and you had to play a game against 9 or 10 people all by yourself? What do you think that would be like? (Take responses) It would be hard to play and you probably wouldn't win the game, right?

It's good to be on a team because people on a team help each other and work together. You can also do things with a team that you could not do together. It's a lot of fun to be on a team!

Be on God's Team

Who knows what a watchman is? (take responses)

Watchmen are like guards. They watch to be sure that everyone stays safe in the area that they are watching over. Another way that you can keep people safe is by praying for God to keep them safe.

There's a special team that God wants us all to be on. It's a team that called the "Watchmen on the wall".

There is a verse in the Bible in a book called Psalms. It is Psalm 122:6a

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! (NCV)¹

This verse says pray for Jerusalem to be peaceful. What does being peaceful mean? (Take responses)

Lets all practice being peaceful. Play a recording of very peaceful music. *Allow the children to express "peacefulness" physically. They can sit in their chairs, or on the floor. Younger children may want to lie down on the floor while they listen to one of the songs.*

Teacher: How they felt while the music was playing. (Allow responses) Did you feel safe and happy

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inside? That peaceful feeling that you felt inside is what God wants us to pray for all of the people in Jerusalem to have.

Teach the children The Watchman Song. (The song may be found on the Day of Pray website, www.daytopray.com)

Teacher: I have two friends named Chris and Sandy that I want you to meet.
Direct the children's attention to the puppet theatre.

Puppet Show

Chris enters singing the Watchman Song.

Chris: Pray, pray for the peace, of Jerusalem. That she be at rest. Pray, pray for the peace, of Jerusalem may she find her peace...

Sandy: Hi Chris! Whatcha' singin'?

Chris: Oh hi Sandy! It's a song that I learned last week at Sunday School. It's called The Watchman Song.

Sandy: The Watchman Song!?! What are you supposed to watch? I like to watch cartoons!!!! Hey! Did you see that cartoon with the duck and the little puppy? It was so funny, I was laughin' and laughin' when the duck was chasing the cute little puppy and they were... *(Sandy keeps rambling on and on about the cartoon while Chris tries to interrupt her)*

Chris: *(trying to interrupt Sandy)* Sandy... Sandy...*(yelling)* Sandy!!!!!!!!

Sandy: Huh?

Chris: Are you finished?

Sandy: Heh heh. *(bashfully)* Yea, Yea. I..I..I'm finished. What's your song about?

Chris: It means that we are supposed to pray for some people that live in a place called Jerusalem to be safe from bad stuff and that they would love God.

Sandy: Huh. Why do we have to pray for them? We don't live in Jerusalem. We live in (say the name of the city you live in).

Chris: Well, we need to pray for them because the Bible tells us to.

Sandy: It does? Where? *(starting to ramble again)* You know I was just reading in the Bible about Noah and how he had to build that big giant boat, and then he had to collect all of those animals, and boy, that must have so much fun to have all of those animals coming to him. I mean could you imagine the hippos and the elephants and the kangaroos and all of the different kinds of monkeys and cows and dogs and cats and ...

Chris: *(trying to interrupt Sandy again)* Sandy... Sandy...*(yelling)* Sandy!!!!!!!!

Sandy: Huh?

Chris: Are you finished?

Sandy: Heh heh. *(bashfully)* Oh Yea, sorry. I'm finished.

Chris: Like I was saying. The Bible tells us to pray for Jerusalem to be peaceful in Psalm 122 verse 6. It says:

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

"May those who love her be safe." (NCV)

Sandy: It does?! Wow! *(starting to ramble again)* You know, I always try to do what the Bible says. You know, it says treat people the way you want to be treated. You know what, I was just telling my friend Kenny, you know my friend Kenny from school? Well, I was just telling

him that we...

Chris: *(trying to interrupt Sandy)* Sandy... Sandy... *(yelling)* Sandy!!!!!!!

Sandy: Huh?

Chris: Are you finished?

Sandy: Heh heh. *(bashfully)* Oh! Hee hee, I did it again huh? Yea, I'm finished.

Chris: Like I said, The Bible tells us to pray for Jerusalem to be peaceful in Psalm 122:6.

Sandy: *(looking sad)* But Chris, I don't know how to pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Chris: Oh don't worry Sandy! I learned how to pray for Jerusalem in my Sunday School class last week. I'll teach you!

Sandy: Awesome!

Chris: You can say what I say, ok?

Sandy: OK!

(Chris and Sandy bow their heads.)

Chris: Dear God,

Sandy: Dear God,

Chris: I pray for the people in Jerusalem to have peace.

Sandy: I pray for the people in Jerusalem to have peace.

Chris: Please protect them and bring them hope.

Sandy: Please protect them and bring them hope.

Chris: Lord, please bless all of the people in Jerusalem. Amen.

Sandy: Lord, please bless all of the people in Jerusalem. Amen. Hey, that was easy!

Chris: Yep! You can ask God to help you pray for Jerusalem everyday, and to show you different stuff to pray for. He'll teach ya!

Sandy: Cool, I'm going pray for Jerusalem everyday!

Teacher: Why don't we all pray right now for Jerusalem, Israel. *(Lead the children in a prayer for Jerusalem. Allow different children to pray out loud if they are comfortable in doing so.)*

After praying make the Join the Watchmen on the wall pennant.

After the craft is finished, sing The Watchman Song again.