LESSON 5: PRAY WITH FAITH

AIM: To teach the children that God has given everyone a measure of faith and the using of faith is vital in prayers.

MEMORY VERSE: All things are possible to those who believe (Mark 9:23)

OPENING IDEA: Pre-arrange for an adult to stand outside the building or room with a reward (a lolly or sticker) to be given to the child who comes and says, “All things are possible to those who believe.”

Ask the children to put up their hand if they trust you. Then ask them to leave their hand up if they trust you enough to do something for you. Select one child and ask them to go outside the room and find the pre-arranged adult and say, “All things are possible to those who believe.” Then ask the child to return and tell the group what happened. Hold the group in suspense until the child returns with their reward.

Use this opening idea to capture the children’s interest as an illustration of the concept of faith. If the child had not trusted you, they would not have raised their hand initially. This initial faith was put into action by obeying the instructions and the reward was the result of confident seeking. So it is with prayer. (Not knowing there would be a reward, the child was motivated not by personal gain but by a willingness to obey.)

TEACHING SESSION “Surprise for Breakfast”
Tell the story in your own words and make sure the children know from the beginning that it is a true story.

A long time ago, across the ocean in England, there lived a man named George Mueller, who had a great big house. In that house were lots and lots of children. They were not Mr Mueller’s very own children, but they were boys and girls who didn’t have any fathers or mothers to live with. Mr Mueller had invited them to come and live with him in his big house.

One of these children was a little girl named Barbara. Barbara was six years old when she came to live with Mr Mueller and the other children.
TEACHING SESSION  “Surprise for Breakfast” (continued)
Mr Mueller told the children he didn’t have much money to buy food for them. But he said that the Lord Jesus was taking care of them and that they need not worry and that they ought to keep thanking the Lord Jesus because He was so kind to them.

One night after the children had their supper, Mr Mueller said to them. “Children, all the money is gone, and the cook tells me that there is not enough food left for breakfast tomorrow morning. So let’s pray now that the Lord Jesus will send us the food we need.”

The children got down on their knees and Mr Mueller led them in prayer. He said, “Lord Jesus, you have taken care of us and we thank you for being so kind and good to us. Now we need food for breakfast in the morning, and we ask you to send it to us. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

The next morning when the children awoke, they ran downstairs to the breakfast table to see what the Lord had brought for them. There was nothing on their plates, so they sat down and waited for the cook to bring their breakfast from the kitchen.

Then Mr Mueller came in and said, “Children, our breakfast hasn’t come yet. The Lord has not sent it yet. Let’s pray again. So the children got down on their knees again, and Mr Mueller prayed that the Lord would sent them the food that they needed.

Then Mr Mueller said to the children, “Now children, you may run outside and play. It may be that the Lord does not want us to have breakfast this morning, but he will surely provide our needs as he always has.”

Just as the children were leaving the able there was a knock on the front door. Mr Mueller said, “Barbara, you may go and see who is there and what is wanted.”

Barbara ran to the door and opened it, and who do you think was there? Nobody! Someone had been there but had left quickly. They had left a great big bag of rice. Barbara ran into the house. “Oh,” she cried, “there is a bag, a great big bag of rice for our breakfast waiting on the doorstep.”

“Where is the person who brought it to us?” asked Mr Mueller. “We must thank him.” “There is no one there,” said Barbara. “I think perhaps an angel brought it!” “That might be so,” said Mr Mueller. “Or perhaps someone ran away after leaving it, so we wouldn’t know who it was. But it was the Lord who sent it, so let us kneel again and thank Him for sending our breakfast.”
TEACHING SESSION  “Surprise for Breakfast” (continued)
And that is just what the children did. Many times after that the children learned how the Lord Jesus took care of them when they were willing to believe and pray with faith.

(When you discuss the story, emphasise the attitude of George Mueller which was one of complete confidence in God’s willingness and ability to provide.)

ACTIVITY:
Make several torches out of cardboard to illustrate what faith is. These should be displayed for reinforcement of this spiritual truth.

Prior to the Olympic Games, a torch is carried by various athletes from Greece where the Games first began to the current country hosting the event. The torch becomes a fore-runner of what is to come. Likewise in prayer, faith is the ‘torch’ that goes before every petition.

Vital to answered prayer

stepping out before getting an answer

available to all

expecting a miracle

learning to ask largely

trusting God entirely

FAITH is...
Heroes for Young Readers

George Müller

Faith to Feed Ten Thousand

Written by Renee Taft Meloche
Illustrated by Bryan Pollard
PRAY in FAITH
FROM: JOHN 6:10–13

ACROSS
1. "JESUS SAID, 'HAVE THE PEOPLE SIT ________.'"
2. "THERE WAS PLENTY OF ________ IN THAT PLACE.'"
3. "THE MEN SAT DOWN, ABOUT FIVE ________ OF THEM.'"
4. "JESUS THEN TOOK THE LOAVES, GAVE ________, AND DISTRIBUTED TO THOSE WHO WERE SEATED AS MUCH AS THEY WANTED.'"

DOWN
1. "HE SAID TO HIS ________.'"
2. "LET NOTHING BE ________.'"
3. "SO THEY GATHERED THEM AND FILLED TWELVE BASKETS WITH THE PIECES OF THE FIVE BARLEY ________.'"
4. "LEFT OVER BY THOSE WHO HAD ________.'"
Faith is difficult to understand because we cannot touch, see, smell, taste, or hear it. Even so, faith is **REAL**!

Jesus lived by faith. We won’t go very far in our Christian lives unless our “Faith Tank” is full!

**Dutiful** (Luke 17:7-10)

People who are full of faith believe that God is their duty (17:10).

How do you fulfill your duty to God?

**Thankful** (17:11-19)

People who are full of faith believe that God deserves to be ___________ (17:16).

What has God done for you lately that you are thankful for?
PRAY with FAITH and ... 

God will answer you.

Psalm 91:15