

Chapter 8 *Prayer*

Pray Always.

Luke 18:1

To the Parents:

In chapter 8 your child learned to:

- Name four kinds of prayer
- Give examples of four kinds of prayer
- Explain why God wants us to pray
- Pray for his or herself and others

God invites people to knock on the door for them so it will swing open for them. The knocking is a reaching out of a desire. And yet it is God who first reaches out to you, who draws you near and invites you to knock. Your knocking is always a response to God.

Saint Teresa of Avila wrote that prayer was like a garden. God pulls the weeds and sets the plants. However it is up to you to water the garden. In the beginning prayer takes a lot of work. It is like drawing water from a well and carrying many buckets of water to the garden. As the water level in the well rises, it becomes easier. Later you can irrigate the garden from a spring or a stream. At the highest level of prayer, God sends generous rainfall.

With Your Child:

1. One of the most regular times that families can pray together is before meals. Work together to write a family meal prayer that comes from your heart. Pray it before every meal your family shares together.
2. Write a prayer that you can carry with you to pray throughout the day. Keep the prayer to one line so that you can easily remember it.
3. Read about Saint Elizabeth Seton on the Review and Explore page.