

ONE WORD PRAYERS

This approach is very helpful for children who for whatever reason find it difficult to pray out loud or are uncomfortable or unfamiliar with prayer.

Instructions:

- Explain to the group that they only need to contribute single words to the following prayers, although they can use more! We will pray a prayer of thanks to God. Take some time to think of one word that describes something you are thankful for. You are welcome to choose more than one word if you like.
- Say, ‘I am going to begin and end the prayer. I will begin with a sentence giving thanks to God and then I will leave a space. You can say your word at any time during that space. Don’t worry if someone else says theirs at the same time. God can hear both. At the end I will say Amen, which is what we say at the end to say we agree with the prayer.’”

Prayer:

“Thank you God, there are so many good things that you have given us, and we want to say thank you for some of them now.

Thank you for... [Space.....]

Thank you, God, that you have heard all our prayers. Amen.”

Adaption:

- Ask the children to write down a line of prayer on a strip of paper.
- Swap it with someone else.
- During the space, they read out the line on the piece of paper in their hand