



Center for Faith and Children

at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Interactive Prayer Station Set Up Guide

Want to try creating an Interactive Prayer Space in your church or home? We've tried to make it very simple for you to create one or all these prayer stations wherever they will serve you best!

This document is an overview of all the prayer stations we included in our prayer room at the Children's Spirituality Summit 2024. The prayer stations we chose were simple enough that they could be explained in a few sentences and that a participant could follow directions on their own without guidance or demonstration. Every station involves some materials, though no station is overly complex. We also tried to strike a balance of imaginative, artistic, active, and reflective stations. This list is by no means exhaustive—and we hope it leaves you with a new idea for a station of your own!

This **Set Up Guide** has a brief overview of each station and a list of the steps you'll take to set it up. If you want to know what supplies to buy, you'll want to check out our **Shopping List**, which is organized by station and includes links. **Printable directions** are also available for each station.

Set Up Instructions

Praying in Color/Writing to God: This station is based on two books: *Praying in Color: Kids' Edition* by Sybil MacBeth and *Writing to God: Kids' Edition* by Rachel Hackenberg. At this station, participants use colored markers or pencils to write or draw their prayers and add them to a display. You can select and create a "menu" of prayers for your group or let them use the books on their own. [You can also download a variety of praying in color templates here.](#)

Station Set Up

- Gather items from shopping list.
- Print directions.
- Create "prayer menu" (optional, see above).
- Choose what will happen to the completed drawings & letters: will you put them in a journal, have a place to "send them" such as a mailbox, or have people take them home?
- Set materials up on a table or in a container.

Prayer Loom: At this station, colorful yarn is pre-cut to fit a weaving loom and sorted into containers, with each color representing a different person, place, or thing to pray for. Participants select a color and weave it into the loom, adding their prayer to the tapestry.

Station Set Up

- Gather items from shopping list.

- Print directions.
- Select number of containers & label containers with the categories for prayers. We chose: Family & Friends, Church & Community, People who are sick or hurt, Our World, School, and Thank You God.
- Choose colors to match each category.
- Set the loom up according to the directions.
- Weave a piece of yarn through the loom and then cut it off, leaving about 1-2 inches on either side. Use this yarn to cut the remaining yarn and place it in the proper container.
- Set the loom up with the containers nearby.

Prayer Hopscotch: At this station, participants hop, skip, and jump their way through the Lord's Prayer.

Station Set Up

- Create your design in Canva. Use [our template](#) if you like!
- Order floor decals from VistaPrint or similar print shop.
- Install the floor decals.

Feeling Prayers: At this station, a feelings poster helps participants identify how they are feeling and a mirror lets them show Jesus how they are feeling. They are then invited to close their eyes and imagine how Jesus looks at them.

Station Set Up

- Gather items from the shopping list.
- Print directions.
- Make arrangements to print the feelings poster. Walgreens can print a nice-sized poster board for less than \$20.
- Set materials up on a table or in a container.

Good Shepherd Prayer Box: This tool is designed to help participants enter into imaginative prayer with scripture. Materials to retell the Psalm are collected in a box which can be used to play through the story imaginatively.

Station Set Up

- Gather items from the shopping list.
- Print directions.
- Cut the green felt to fit in the bottom of the box.
- Cut the blue felt to make a stream.
- Place all the pieces in the box.
- Set materials up on a table or in a container.

Prayer Labyrinth: The prayer labyrinth offers participants a tactile way to pray, tracing their finger through the smooth grooves of the bamboo maze. A larger walking labyrinth can be made with tape on the floor, rocks on the ground, or by ordering a labyrinth printed sheet.

Station Set Up

- Gather items from the shopping list.
- Print directions.

- Set materials up on a table or in a container.

Body Prayers: This station is based on the book *Praying with the Body*, and it includes poses for several different types of Psalms.

Station Set Up

- Gather items from the shopping list.
- Print directions.
- Select a prayer you would like to use. Place a bookmark there or have a guide learn the prayer so that they can guide others.
- Set materials up on a table or in a container.

Lament Prayers: At this station, participants are invited to pray “Why, God?” prayers, and to explore the feelings of things being “all wrong” by building and knocking down a tower. They are invited to end their time, looking at the fallen pieces and asking God to heal, restore and make new.

Station Set Up

- Gather items from the shopping list.
- Print directions.
- Set materials up on a table or in a container.

Breath Prayers: This prayer practice that is gaining popularity gets a playful twist when paired with an expanding sphere. Participants are encouraged to open the sphere as they breathe in and to close it as they breathe out, reciting the prayer phrase as they do so.

Station Set Up

- Gather items from the shopping list.
- Print directions.
- Print and cut out the breath prayer cards or create your own.
- Set materials up on a table or in a container.