

Prayer Styles for All Ages

- Hold an object (stone, shell, feather, seed, etc.)
- Write on piece of paper
- Bring something forward (written, a seed to plant in a large pot, etc.)
- Color/draw a prayer
- Come forward to light a candle
- Psalm: antiphonally, litany, chanted
- Echo
- Sung
- Hand movement or sign language
- Breath prayer
- Focus on section of a prayer at a time (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication)
- Thanks, Gimme, Wow, Oops (Marc Gellman)
- Help, Thanks, Wow (Anne Lamott)



Prayer “Holdables”

Very young children quickly learn to recognize Sesame Street and Disney characters because of early and repeated exposure to these images. Having symbolic objects to look at and manipulate is instrumental in shaping a sense of identity and community in very young children. Think of the intensity with which babies investigate simple toys and their fascination with and preference for playthings that mimic familiar objects such as keys and phones.

What objects could become Christian toys for babies and young children to want to play with and explore? Distribute these every time your faith community comes together intergenerationally, and provide parents with resources to use them at home.

- Bean bags (stuffed shape with or without a face)
- Smooth stones with or without words (large enough for toddlers)
- Chenille stems
- Model Magic
- Crayons (fat & thin) with card stock pieces
- Shells
- “Fortune tellers” or “cootie catchers” (pre-made with prayer guidance on them - [http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Cootie-Catcher-\(Origami-Fortune-Teller\)](http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Cootie-Catcher-(Origami-Fortune-Teller)))
- Twigs
- Yarn/cord for braiding/twisting/knotting
- Photos
- Foil
- Prayer flags
- Cottonballs/pompoms
- Prayer shawl
- Palms, palm crosses
- Large seeds
- Prayer wheel (<https://craftingthewordofgod.com/2013/04/13/i-can-pray/>)
- Bibles
- Plastic eggs
- Bread dough
- Christmas ornaments/symbols/ Chrismons/ Jesse tree items
- Water bowl(s)
- Sand bowl(s)/tray(s)
- Feathers
- Prayer beads
- Mandalas Crosses
- Finger labyrinth Fabric (shapes)
- Silk flowers
- Candles (battery-operated)