Day Three: Prayer Jars and Sticks

Scripture:
Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.’

So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, ‘He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.’ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, ‘Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.’ Then Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.’

Response:

- When we feel lost, we can turn to God in prayer.
- Prayer can be active and fun and engaging.
- Create a series of sticks with prayer ideas on them, and a jar to keep them in.

Materials

1. Jar
2. Sand, beads, buttons, etc.
3. Construction paper or ribbon
4. Yarn
5. Beads and string
6. Elmer's Glue (optional: Hot glue)
7. Paint (if desired)
8. Ruler
9. Scissors
10. “Tongue depressors” or popsicle style sticks
11. Marker or pen

Steps:

1. Clean out your jar
2. Decorate the jar with beads, ribbons, paper, etc, using glue to make them stick to the jar.
3. Fill jar with sand or beads or small stones.
4. Write these various prayer activities on the tongue depressors
   a. “Sit in silent prayer for 3 minutes”
   b. “Give thanks for 5 things”
   c. “Give thanks for one thing that happened to you today”
   d. “Pray for someone you know”
   e. “Pray for someone you do not know”
   f. “Pray for someone in need”
   g. “Read a scripture in the Bible”
   h. “Sing a song of praise to God”
5. Pick out one of these to use any time you need a prayer. Put them back in the jar when done.