

## FAITH FORMATION AT HOME - FAMILIES

BRIEF FAITH ACTIVITIES TO DO AT HOME.

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# Family Prayer Flags

By Beth Gier

*Work together to create prayer flags to tie on an indoor or outdoor plant. The flags will serve as reminders of the importance of prayer and of the truth that "only God is God."*

### **Materials Needed:**

Colorful plain fabric scraps or an old bed sheet, fabric scissors, medium-tipped permanent markers in colors dark enough to show up on the fabric, a large plant or tree (indoor or outdoor)

### **Prepare in Advance:**

Cut or tear fabric into strips about 2" x 12", at least five strips for each family member.

### **PRAY**

Say this prayer aloud to begin:

God, help us to remember there are many ways to pray and that you hear all our prayers, for you alone are God. Amen.

### **DISCUSSION**

Talk together about your family's concerns and joys. What people or requests do you typically include in your prayers? What people or concerns do you want to pray for right now?

### **ACTIVITY**

Use the permanent markers to write prayer requests on the strips of cloth—the prayer flags—one request per flag. Be ready to help younger children with spelling. If desired, draw an image instead of using words. Choose a large plant or tree (indoor or outdoor) to be your "prayer tree." Tie the prayer flags you're your prayer requests to its branches.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

When you are finished, gather around the plant and say this prayer aloud:

*God, in prayer we offer up to you all our concerns and joys, for you alone are God. Amen.*

Gather around your prayer tree again in a week or month. Look at the prayer strips and remove the ones that are no longer needed. Add strips for new prayer requests. Discuss together how God has been active in your lives and in the lives of those for whom you are praying.