

Looking for some fun lessons for teaching children (and getting them excited!) about Jesus, can kind of be difficult. Especially when you have children in your classroom that can range in age from three months to almost 6th grade.

I found this on Pinterest-Fizzy Forgiveness Prayer Station.

What I really loved about this was the fact that you can take something relatively easy to find (fizzy tablets) and turned it into something really cool!

Kids *LOVE* fizz. Even I as an adult, feel child like exuberance when I see fizz. There is something just so awesome about effervescence.

I took this fizz idea and made it my own. Sometimes to come up with a cool idea, we just need a little help from above-and others!

My lesson was to teach children about prayer. I don't think you can stress enough, the importance of building a strong relationship with our Lord. Prayer does this along with reading His word.

Welcome to the lesson of:

"Jesus Gets Excited When You Pray!"

I used 1 Timothy 2:1-6 (NLT). I wanted to stress that Jesus hears all prayers, not just prayers that come from adults, and we should pray for everyone!

1 Timothy 2:1-6 (New Living Translation)

- 2 I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.
- 2 Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity.
- 3 This is good and pleases God our Savior,
- 4 who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.
- **5** For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus.
- **6** He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time.

Also, I wanted the children to understand what praying actually means. I looked up and printed out the definition, and some easier words, to help describe what it means to pray.

Pray is defined as: to offer a devout (*worship or sincere*) petition, praise, thanks, to God.

From the Greek words pros and euchomai.

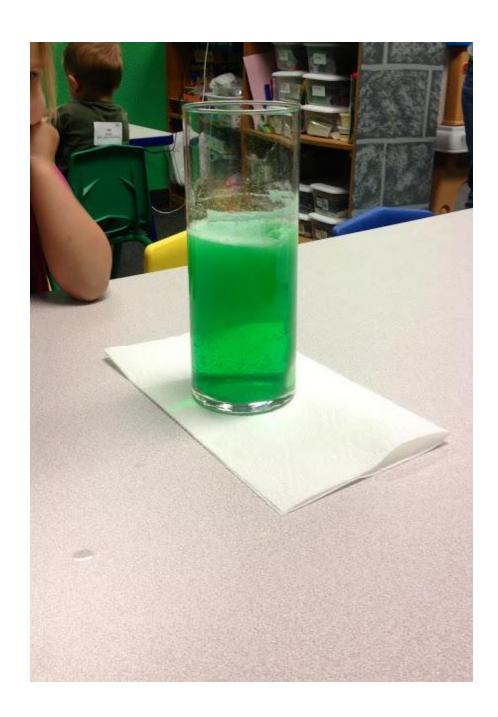
Pros means to motion towards or interface (communication or interaction) with, moving toward a goal or destination.

Euchomai means to properly wish, offer a request, pray to God.

Every time you pray, you are moving towards God. You are communicating and building a relationship.

After we took turns reading and discussion what prayer means and how it applies to the verse I showed the kids what happens when we pray.

I used two glasses and filled them with some regular tap water and for extra "fizz" some sparkling water.





I went to our local City Market and bought these Alka Seltzer generic tablets. We got 30 tables for roughly \$2. I wanted to make sure we had enough for two child, at the very least.

I allowed the children to pick what color we would make the water-they

chose green, purple. My children at home chose orange.



I had them gather around and I said, "Tell me how this makes you feel." I dropped a tablet into the water and it immediately began to fizz.

The excitement on their faces was extremely evident and also, they said it was pretty cool.

I asked them if it was exciting to watch the fizz, and they all said, "Yes!"



I told them, that every time we pray to Jesus, that's how he feels. He feels excited, because we're building a relationship with him. We're talking to him, we're including him in our lives. Jesus loves us so much and he wants to be a part of our lives.

I handed each kid two tablets (there are two in each pack) and said that each one of us could pray together for someone or about something in their lives. I also gave them personal discretion that if they didn't feel

comfortable praying out loud, we would just pray in agreement silently with them.

To watch the kids pray with excitement was just amazing! I know it partly had to do with the fizzy tablets they got to play with, but we also got to watch them gain understanding that praying is a good thing. Praying can be fun!

If it's fun to go to the movies, shouldn't it be fun to spend time praying to God too? I think so!

Also, I told the kids, after we had gotten into a few prayers, that we needed to be quiet and listen. They could hear the fizzing noise in action. I said sometimes that's how God works. He answers our prayers, but sometimes we have to be quiet and listen. God is a gentleman and he never forces us to do anything.



At the end of the class, I allowed the kids to save up their fizzes and they all dropped their remaining ones in together to see if they could over flow the water (which of course they managed to do! I'm pretty sure that was the one silent prayer we had!!).



We finished up the lesson with another coloring page from TwistyNoodle! I mentioned them before in our Lamb of God_lesson we did over Resurrection Sunday.

I hope you found this fun and can some how use it to teach your kids about how awesome and amazing Jesus Christ is!

Just an FYI-I have a few left over tablets and I kept the orange glass out for

our kids, and when they pray I let them drop a fizz into the water.

Make sure to monitor your kids too! If you use the alka seltzer tablets, make sure they don't eat them or drink the water that you use. I'm not sure what exactly could happen, but we don't need to try to imagine it either!

Have fun sharing and learning about God! I'd love to hear your ideas or how you've incorporated this into your own lessons and teaching!