

## LET'S TALK

How to pray....or God is near

Characters:

SAM (or Samantha) is trying to pray.

JESUS is near SAM.

SAM enters with lots of stuff....kneeling pad/cushion, prayer shawl, Bible, prayer list, book titled "how to pray" ...and works to get everything set up just right while kneeling next to a "bench/bed", facing the audience. Jesus is already sitting in a corner of the "room".

SAM - **OK, I think I've got everything. Now** (opens "how to pray" book) **#1 – find a quiet place.** (Looks around, gets up, walks to "door" opens it, listens, and comes back) **Good. The kids are all watching cartoons, so I should have some uninterrupted time.**

(SAM settles back down and opens book again. Jesus walks up behind SAM to listen.) **#2 Sing a hymn of praise** (Jesus is smiling and enjoying the song as SAM tries to sing, but keeps getting a frog or is off key and finally stops. JESUS, shakes his head, disappointed that SAM stopped.) **Not my thing. I sure hope I didn't scare Him away!**

(SAM opens book again) **#3 – Read a Psalm as an example.** (Opens Bible, does a twirl with the finger and picks "at random" Psalm 50:16-18 and reads it) **"But to the wicked, God says: What right have you to recite my laws or take my covenant on your lips? You hate my instruction and cast my words behind you!"** (Looks around with guilt.) **Whoa! Not quite what I expected!**

JESUS winces and says- **Not the one I would have chosen for this time and place either.**

(SAM looks around as if hearing something.) **You'd think God would have made this easier!**

**Let's see** (opens book) **#4 – Tell God how great He is. OK. I can do this! O God, Thou who art in heaven above, far, far above where Thine eyes see everything and Thy wrath and Thy judgment rain down upon us, please hear my prayer.**

JESUS puts a hand on SAM's shoulder and says – **I'm right here.**

(SAM looks around as if hearing something.)

(opens book) **UH....#5 – Thank Jesus for dying in your place. Oh boy, now I'm really confused. Am I talking to Jesus or am I talking to God?**

JESUS puts his hands out so that the nail prints in His palms show and says – **I'm listening, with all my heart.**

(SAM looks around as if hearing something.)

(SAM quickly opens book again) **#6 – Share your prayer list with God. Now this I can do. I've got a big list ready!....**

(SAM AND JESUS COMMENTS GO BACK AND FORTH, but SAM doesn't seem to hear Jesus because SAM is too busy with the list.)

SAM – **Aunt Jane has been really sad since Uncle Jeff died.**

JESUS – **She and I have been talking about that.**

SAM – **Cody need a job.**

JESUS – **I'm waiting for him to fill out an application.**

SAM – **Sarah scraped her knee and won't let me put medicine on it.**

JESUS – **I'll keep the germs away.**

SAM – **My boss doesn't understand my schedule.**

JESUS – **What are you willing to give up?**

SAM, getting restless and frustrated with the process and the big list – **And I want to be more spiritual.**

JESUS – **This is a good start.**

SAM, getting up, and walking out of the room – **Oh, I don't know why I try to do this. I'm just no good at praying!**

JESUS, following her - **But I really enjoyed our conversation! I'm ready for more whenever you are.**

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