

EMERGE 2026

Term 3

Term 3 Summary

Throughout Term 3, Emerge will be following the 24/7 Prayer Youth Course 'Origins'.

Check out the weekly overviews and 'At Home' suggestions below.

Each week, kids will also go home with a new prayer journal activity to practice every day, helping them build a great toolkit of how to pray.

Week 1 - 19th July - Why Pray?

Introductory video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVHUX_EJnUs

Focus: "Real prayer is a two-way conversation between you and God". How do you have a relationship with someone if you don't talk to or listen to them? How does prayer make you feel?

Discussions: What does it mean to be a child of God? (Galations 3:23-29 & 4:1-7) What do I need to ask forgiveness for?

At home: Have you ever experienced hearing from God? This is a great opportunity to share stories of God moving in your life - through healing, dreams, situations, encounters, words of knowledge etc.

Week 2 - 26th July - Who do we pray to?

Focus: We pray to our Father who loves us, listens to us, and keeps his promises (Jeremiah 29:11-13). We pray with Jesus who has made a way for us to be close with the God who made us (John 14:6), and we listen for the Holy Spirit to guide us (John 16:13-15).

Discussions: What words would you use to describe God? Practice praying using M&Ms (colour-coded prayer points).

At home: Discuss who God is to you. Make a list of all the words/phrases you would use to describe God. Perhaps take turns working through the alphabet saying one word for each letter. Discuss what you would ask/say to Jesus if he was sitting beside you as you chat.

Week 3 - 2nd Aug - Pause

Focus: "To start we must stop. To move forward we must pause. This is the first step in a deeper prayer life: put down your wish-list and wait." (Pete Greig, How To Pray)

Discussions: Where/when can you find a quiet place to sit with the Lord? (Mark 6:31). Being still in the presence of God helps us to 'be still' during the storms of life (Mark 4:38-40). Practice slowing down our thoughts to focus on God.

At home: Plan when you and your family could create space for prayer in your day. This might be a time together or by yourselves. Try praying in different spots to see if there is somewhere calm and without distractions that help you focus on God. Discuss what things stop you praying or make you feel "too busy".

EMERGE 2026

Term 3

Week 4 - 9th Aug - Rejoice/Reflect

Focus: Psalm 103:2 says, "Let all that I am praise the Lord; may I never forget the good things he does for me." Prayer involves gratitude and a posture of thanksgiving as we remember who God is and what he has done for us.

Discussions: The Psalms consist of many prayers and songs for many different emotions and situations. When we don't know what to pray, this can be a great starting point. What can we be grateful for? What are the big and little things that we can give thanks for?

At home: Read a different psalm each day. Is there one you can commit to memory? If you're musical, perhaps create a melody to go with one of the psalms? Or take a pop song and change the words to the psalm. If you're sporty, can you bounce or throw a ball to make a beat and recite the psalm in time to it?

Note from Hayleigh - A family I used to board with had a basket of notebooks for each person at the dining table. On the first page, it read "Every day may not be good, but there is good in every day". Each night between dinner and dessert, we would take out the notebooks and write down all the things we were grateful for from the day and share with each other over dessert. Would a version of this work for your family?

Week 5 - 16th Aug - Guest Speaker

Sam Harvey, the NZ national coordinator for 24/7 Prayer, came to speak at Gateway. Emerge stayed in for the morning gathering, which you can listen to again on the Gateway Podcast. He encouraged us to "normalise a radical devotion to Jesus", becoming a people of consistent prayer and quiet time with Jesus and reminding us that although it is hard with the distractions of the world, it is totally worth fighting for.

His second talk in the evening focussed around 1 Thessalonians 5 and is definitely also worth a listen.

At home: Discuss what stood out to you from Sam's talks. Is there anything that encouraged you or challenged you? Parents, don't forget to share your thoughts too. What practical steps could you as a family take towards encouraging each other to pray more.

Week 6 - 23rd Aug - Ask

Focus: God wants us to articulate our problems because it builds relationship between us and Him, which is the ultimate goal of prayer. The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-13)

Discussions: It's more than ok to ask for things in prayer: Jesus teaches us to do it. In fact, the requests Jesus tells us to make in the Lord's prayer cover almost every area of our lives.

At home: Make a prayer jar or box and fill it with things to pray for. Each day, pull a few prompts out and pray for those things. Perhaps each line of the Lord's Prayer could be a separate prompt. You could also make a journal or separate box/jar to compile answered prayers and log anything God has said to you. Don't forget to ask others in your household how you can be praying for them.

EMERGE 2026

Term 3

Week 7 - 30th Aug - Yes

Focus: We say yes to God in response to God first saying yes to us (1 John 4:19). In having a relationship with God, we are called to lay down our life before Him and say yes to His will, no matter the cost.

Discussions: There are many things God might say to you (yes, no, wait, go, grow...). Are you willing to follow and obey his calling? How hard or easy is it to give up things to follow God's will? Is it worth the reward?

At home: Discuss together what hearing from God might sound like. Share any examples of God speaking to you and how you knew it was him. What makes it easy/hard to hear his voice?

Week 8 - 6th Sep - Guest Speaker

Don Barry, comes up to Emerge to answer some of the 'big' questions our Year 7&8s have been asking this year. Notes from our discussions will be emailed out to our Emerge families.

At home: It's ok for us to not have all the answers but it is important for us to provide space for our kids to explore and share their questions as they take ownership of their faith and grow in their understanding. Spending time in the Word and time in prayer with the Lord are a great place to start. Trusted community also give space for us to explore the big questions, even if we can't always come up with an answer!

Week 9 - 13th Sep - Endure

Focus: God always hears our prayers, however, he may not answer them how we expect. God continually invites into a life of prayer and it is always good. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, James 5:16)

Discussions: What are some of the things that hold you back from or stop you from praying? What are some of the lies and truths we hold onto when things aren't going to plan or the answers to our prayers aren't clear?

At home: Ask each other who you could ask to encourage and hold you accountable with your prayer life? Practice praying together or use a repeat after me method to help our kids find the words to pray when it's tough. A great question to ask one another is 'What's something you need prayer for but don't have the words?'

Week 10 - 20th Sep - Repeat

Focus: "Keep it simple, keep it real, keep it up" - Pete Greig. Wrapping up our prayer series with the encouragement to keep going!

Discussions: How do you feel about prayer now compared to the beginning of the term? Does prayer always have to look the same?