

# Christmas Tree Prayer

We can pray together, using a Pipe Cleaner to help us.

Give everyone a pipe cleaner and invite them to follow these steps.

1. Take a pipe cleaner and bend it in half into a point.
  - Hold it point upwards.
  - The first part of our prayer recognises that God is God over all.
  - Nothing is greater than God.
  - Christmas points us to God.



Dear God,  
You made us all,  
You give life to us all,  
You take care of us all,  
You are our guide,  
You love us all.

Each of these prayers might be prayed by a different person or group in your community. If you are a school, this first prayer is ideal for the youngest children.

2. Everything about God is wonderful, but of course, we know that sometimes things for us get a bit wobbly, life isn't always straight forward.
  - Bend each side of the pipe cleaner in a wiggly zig zag, about 3 times.



Dear God,  
Our life can go in all different directions, and things can feel wobbly sometimes.  
Sometimes we do wrong things, and sometimes wrong things happen to us. But you are still with us, helping things go the right way again.  
You make the crooked paths straight and the rough places smooth.

This prayer can be enhanced by some global or local images of the world gone wobbly – injustice, poverty and disaster, broken relationships and hopelessness. It may be an opportunity to pray specifically for some places and situations.

3. Take the two ends of the pipe cleaner stem and straighten them downwards in parallel.
  - This makes a straight path.
  - Jesus was called the Way, because he shows us the way to God.
  - Following Jesus gives us a right and true path in God's good ways.



Dear Jesus,

Thank you for coming to show us the path of true and right and fair living. Thank you for living a life - all the way from a baby to a grown up - that we can follow. Help us to remember you, and to find out more about you, and to follow your good paths.

4. Take the two ends of the pipe cleaner stem and twist them together.
  - Jesus coming as a human baby, living life on earth like us, is a huge sign that God wants us to live our lives in close friendship with him.
  - He's not distant – he's Emanuel: God with us



Dear Jesus,

Thank you for coming to live among people, and being like us. Thank you that you love us and want to share in our whole lives. Thank you that you are Emanuel – God with us – always close by. We can talk to you anytime, and you understand what it's like to be a child, or a teacher, or live in a family, or care about friends. Thank you that you are always with us – even now.

5. Take your Christmas tree home and hang it somewhere as a decoration.
  - Whenever you notice it, pray one part of the prayer that seems right for you at that time.
  - Share the way we prayed with your family, or with people who visit your home.

