

## Make a Prayer Net *by Gail Jackins*

### Why Is This Faith Practice Important?

A prayer net is a tactile approach to prayer. It is inexpensive and can be organized for a variety of applications: short periods of time, such as a retreat day, or for a unit, or a year, or as a permanent form of pilgrimage.

The adults who have shared the action of tying on a prayer seem to appreciate it as much as our young people.



For young people, a prayer net is a way to know that their prayers are joined with others. To know that they can take part in praying in an outward and visible way because Jesus has called them, as he called his fishermen followers and as he calls all of us.

### Materials Needed

- Yarn, cut into short pieces
- A large net
- Instruction sheets
- Small table

### How To Do It

**Choose a location and hang net:** Preparing a prayer net is easy. In a central location, or a corner of a room, hang your net where it will be easy to access and visible.

**Provide yarn and instructions:** Cut pieces of yarn of different colors and place them in piles near the net. Also, lay out printed explanations of the prayer net, with instructions. (see sample instructions on the next page)

**Determine your time period:** Your prayer net can be an tactile approach to prayer for any length of time. For example: a retreat day, a season, a full year, or even as a permanent form of pilgrimage.

## Resources For This Practice

### Prayer Net Explanation and Instructions



Jesus' first followers were fishermen.  
Jesus called them to leave their nets and follow him.

Why not take a piece of yarn and tie it into the net as a symbol of your renewed determination to follow Jesus?

Return as often as you'd like to tie a piece of yarn as a symbol of a prayer. It can express the prayer of your heart without speaking a word. By rituals like this, we can come closer to the Holy Spirit who prays within us "with sighs too deep for words." (Romans 8:26)

## About The Author

*Gail Jackins grew up in Northern Maine, so her friends refer to her as a Mainiac. She is a life-long Episcopalian who enjoys PBS, knitting, Jello, and children. Her favorite songs are from the era of Gershwin, Porter, and Berlin, yet she loves to listen to church organ concerts. Gail is the Family Minister at St. Cuthbert Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas.*