

Soul Matters

Family Faith Formation

Family Story



Granddad's Prayers of the Earth, by Douglas Wood

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmBhQE2KITo>

A great way to explore the importance of death and love is by sharing this book. And guess what? It's about prayers and how prayers can help with death and love! Does everyone know what a prayer is? People do it a lot of different ways but a good way to think about it is... [maybe something like expressing your hopes to the universe or to God.]

In this story, a boy and his grandfather reflect on prayers. And as they do, they tell us that one of the ways we hold on to history is by remembering the ones we love in prayers. By remembering that love, the world can seem right again. After reading the book, take time to reflect on these questions.

- Have you ever thought of what a prayer is? What do you think prayer is?
- If you were walking in the woods, what would you pick up and put in your pocket?
- What did you think about the conversation between Granddad and his grandson about prayer?
- Have you ever lost someone or a pet and felt empty like the boy?
- Some people say that they can hear the voices of their loved ones whom they have lost. Can you share a time when it seemed like your loved one, person or pet, was speaking to you?

Family Activity

Rock Crafts - In the book, the boy picks up a rock and puts it in his pocket. Invite the children to collect river rocks and other rocks then glue them with a glue gun to form a cairn to place in a special place or paint the rocks to act as markers.

Family Movie

Now that it's come back into the movie theatres, it might be time to go and watch Avatar again! A paralyzed Marine becomes mobile again using an avatar. It's here that he falls in love with a Na'vi woman and becomes torn between following his orders and protecting the world that he is learning is his own.

