

BYE-BYE, YO-YO



Theme: *Staying connected to God*

Scripture: *1 Thessalonians 5:17*

Prop: *A yo-yo (no skill required!)*

I'll be with you in a minute. I've got to practice a little first. *(Take out yo-yo and get it going.)* Some people are really good with yo-yos. Not me! I'm lucky if I can get it to go up and down a couple of times in a row.

I can do a few things, though. I can get it to imitate life... *(Make it go up and down a few times.)* See, life has lots of ups and downs. And then there's the stock market... *(Hold your hand steady so the yo-yo drops further and further down until it's at the end of the string.)*

(Then let the yo-yo stand up on the floor.) And here's my best trick: "Play dead!" *(Push yo-yo on its side with your foot.)* See, I told you I wasn't very good.

Did you ever notice how important the string is to a yo-yo? It's the string that connects the yo-yo to my hand. Without that connection the yo-yo would roll right down the aisle and probably get lost. Without that connection it's "Bye-bye, yo-yo!"

And it's the same with us. We need to stay connected, too – to God. Without a connection to God we'd be like a yo-yo without a string: we'd just roll around and probably get lost.

What do you think is the best way to stay connected to God? Prayer! And how often should we pray? Once a month? Once a week? How about every day? I think that's a good idea. Let's see what it says in 1 Thessalonians 5:17: Paul said, "Pray continually." In other words, pray every day.

So we need to stay connected to God by praying every day so we won't be like a yo-yo without a string.

Now, that's something we should pray about: Heavenly Father, help us to remember to pray every day so that we can stay connected to you, and so that we can know your will for us and be guided by your Holy Spirit. We pray this in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Song: *"Sweet Hour of Prayer"*