

Praying For Our Children

A natural question for any parent to ask himself or herself is “*Am I doing everything I can for my children?*” The honest answer is that no parent can do everything—but you can pray. The question is, “*How?*”

We encourage you to specifically pray for your children and pray with them. Use these seven areas of focus as prompts for your prayers. Jesus said in Luke 18:16, “*Let the little children come to me.*” Maybe their journey will begin and continue with a prayer—yours.

Pray...for your prayers will outlive you.

1. Pray For Their Character

“Don’t be selfish; don’t live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don’t think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing.”
Philippians 2:3-4

“But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law.”
Galatians 5:22-23

“Don’t just pretend that you love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Stand on the side of the good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy in your work, but serve the Lord enthusiastically.”
Romans 12:9-11

“A fool gives full vent to anger, but a wise person quietly holds it back.”
Proverbs 29:11

Pray that your children will develop a Godly character.

2. Pray For Their Protection

“I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one.”
John 17:15

“But remember that the temptations that come into your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will keep the temptation from becoming so strong that you can’t stand up against it. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you will not give in to it.”
1 Corinthians 10:13

“And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can’t, and life can’t. The angels can’t, and the demons can’t. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, and even the powers of hell can’t keep God’s love away. Whether we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
Romans 8:38-39

Pray that your children will be protected from the evil in this world.

3. Pray For Their Thankfulness

“And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are all called to live in peace. And always be thankful.”
Colossians 3:15

“No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”
1 Thessalonians 5:18

Pray that your children will develop an attitude of thankfulness

4. Pray For Their Courage

“But when I am afraid, I put my trust in you.”
Psalm 56:3

“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you.”
1 Peter 5:7

“The Lord is my strength, my shield from every danger. I trust in him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving.”
Psalm 28:7

Pray that your children will know that God will give them courage when they need it.

5. Pray For Their Words and Deeds

“And whatever you do or say, let it be as a representative of the Lord Jesus, all the while giving thanks through him to God the Father.”
Colossians 3:17

“Don’t speak evil against each other, my dear brothers and sisters. If you criticize each other and condemn each other, then you are criticizing and condemning God’s law. But you are not a judge who can decide whether the law is right or wrong. Your job is to obey it.”
James 4:11

“Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. 18 Do your part to live in peace with everyone, as much as possible.”
Romans 12:17

“Take control of what I say, O Lord, and keep my lips sealed.”
Psalm 141:3

Pray that your children will honor God through what they say and what they do.

6. Pray For Their Understanding Of God's Grace

“For all have sinned; all fall short of God’s glorious standard. Yet now God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins.”

Romans 3:23-24

“God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.”

Ephesians 2:8-9

Pray that your children will both understand and learn to live in God’s grace.

7. Pray For Their Salvation

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it.” John 3:16-17

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23

Pray that your children will one day own their own faith and come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

“And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away on a journey, when you are lying down and when you are getting up again. Tie them to your hands as a reminder, and wear them on your forehead. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

Praying For Your Children

“Some children were brought to Jesus so he could lay his hands on them and pray for them. The disciples told them not to bother him. But Jesus said, ‘Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these.’ And he put his hands on their heads and blessed them before he left.”

Matthew 19:13-15 (NLT)

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