



Each year, as summer winds down, we are intentional about specifically praying for students, families, and educators as they begin the journey of a new school year. This time of transition always brings a mix of excitement and anxiety, but this year's circumstances and challenges are unprecedented. We hope this prayer guide will be a resource for staying connected to God and drawing on his peace and power as the school year begins and continues.

Please use this Prayer Guide to pray for students, families, and educators. The guide is broken into four sections with prayer resources:

"For All of Us to Pray"  
"For Families to Pray"  
"For Students to Pray"  
"For Educators to Pray"

## FOR ALL OF US TO PRAY

### 2020 Back-to-School Prayer

Dear God, with a new school year upon us, we pray for our...

**STUDENTS**, that You would ease their anxiety about going back to school amidst the pandemic. We pray for safety for those returning to in-person classes, and for the needed technology, self-discipline, and adult oversight for those learning online. Would You ensure that every child has enough to eat, a supportive network of friends and family, and perseverance to face every challenge with Your strength?

**FAMILIES**, that You would grant them wisdom about navigating these strange days. We pray for Your provision physically, spiritually, emotionally, and financially. We pray for a support system that they can turn to when the challenges of life are overwhelming. We pray for churches and believers to surround local families with more prayer and support this year than ever before.

**EDUCATORS**, that You would grant them supernatural peace and discernment. We pray for wisdom for teachers and administrators and for the safety of every person on every school campus. May the community rally around our schools to provide the sanitization, supplies, and emotional support needed by our teachers and school staff as they educate our children.

**OUR CHURCH**, that Your faithfulness and goodness would be evident through our actions as we love the students and school staff as You first loved us. Especially in the midst of this pandemic, grant us opportunities to develop meaningful relationships in safe ways, and may we strive to serve as Jesus did with grace and humility. We pray that students, teachers, and families would see You through us.

In Jesus' name we pray,  
Amen.



## **Prayer for a New School Year**

Lord, please bless all our children, teachers, school staff, friends, and relatives as they make their way back to school for another year.

Help them to feel excitement and joy in the promise of a new start.

Give them everything they need to start their classes.

Give them all they need all year. Give them imagination and creativity to make wonders out of what they have.

Help them stretch their budgets and their supplies. Give them wisdom all year.

Help them quickly spot the souls who are going to need something extra from them this year.

Help them have just the right words of encouragement for each student.

Give them loads of love. Help the love in their hearts just overflow so they always have plenty to spare.

Please supply them energy.

Please let them sleep well at night so they are rested and refreshed each morning.

Don't let them take their problems and worries to bed with them at night.

Give them patience.

Again, Lord, it's You who supplies in abundance.

Please keep everyone safe and healthy this year.

Let the students be excited about this wonderful world and all there is to learn about it.

Help them to be interested in the people around them, for there's a wealth to learn about and from each other.

Let this be a truly wonderful year for everyone involved in education.

Let everyone feel, at the end of the year, that they gave the best they had.

Keep us all dependent on You, and we will thank You for what You accomplish.

In Jesus' name we pray,  
Amen.

## **The ABCs of Praying for Students**

Attitude - Psalm 19:14

Boldness - Psalm 27:1

Courage - Joshua 1:9

Discernment - Philippians 1:9-10

Enthusiasm - Colossians 3:23

Friendliness - Proverbs 18:24

Generosity - 2 Corinthians 9:7

Humility - Philippians 2:3-5

Initiative - 1 John 3:18

Joyfulness - Philippians 4:4

Knowledge - Proverbs 18:15

Listening - Proverbs 12:15

Maturity - 1 Corinthians 14:20

Neighbors - Mark 12:31

Overflow - Romans 15:13

Perseverance - Galatians 6:9

Quiet - Isaiah 30:15

Respect - Romans 12:10

Self-Control - 2 Peter 1:5-7

Thankfulness - 1 Chronicles 16:34

Understanding - Psalm 119:130

Victory - Psalm 18:29

Wisdom - James 3:17

Excellence - Proverbs 3:4

Youth - 1 Timothy 4:12

Zeal - Romans 12:11



## FOR STUDENTS TO PRAY

### Student's Prayer Guide

#### *What can I pray about?*

Anything! God wants you to talk to Him about everything. Nothing is too big or too small.

#### *Should I pray out loud?*

God hears you whether you pray out loud or silently. Praying silently can be done anywhere. God hears all of your prayers no matter what!

#### *How long should my prayers last?*

You can pray for one second or for hours. God is always listening!

#### *Can I pray with my friends?*

Absolutely! Praying with your friends will make your faith and your friendships stronger.

#### *Should I always close my eyes?*

Closing your hands, bowing your head, and folding your hands may help you to concentrate, but you don't have to. You can talk to God while riding your bike or while sitting quietly.

#### *When and where should I pray?*

Anytime and Anywhere! You can always talk to God. He is always with you.

## Back-to-School Prayer

Dear God, we thank You for everything that is new and beautiful, for everything which holds promise and brings us joy.

Bless us as we start this new year with our friends and teachers.

Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start afresh.

May we show love to one another and to all.

May the new beginning of this school year remind us that You give us chances to start over again and again.

Help us to forgive others as we receive Your forgiveness.

Help us to learn and to work together.

Help us to listen when we should and to know the best words when we speak and when it is better not to speak.

We thank You for our friends – help us to be good friends this year.

Help us to be patient with ourselves and with others.

Bless our school and keep us safe.

Be with us as we travel each day.

Help us to be aware of Your love shown to us in the people around us.

Bless all those who care for us in school and at home.

Help us show our care for them and to say sorry when we need to.

Give us generous spirits to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help us to be attentive and respectful towards our teachers and parents.

Keep all of us safe and healthy.

Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!

Amen.



## FOR FAMILIES TO PRAY

### Prayer for a New School Year

Loving and Gracious God,

It's hard to believe another year has gone by and it's time for another school year to begin. This past year has held so many challenges and frustrations. We thank You for seeing us through to this point. We thank You for the time we have had to be together. We trust You with our future.

We praise You as the Giver of all good things. We praise You for You are the king and ruler over all things. You are above all things, watching over and sustaining all You have made. You know all things. You know the end from the beginning. You know what this new school year holds for our children, and You know just what we need to navigate it.

We bring before You all our worries and uncertainties for our children. We pray for their academic needs, that You would provide them what they need to learn and grow this year. We pray that You would help their teachers to quickly identify and intervene in any challenges they may face in their learning. We pray their teachers would push them when needed, give grace at the right time, and always help them remain engaged.

We pray they would enjoy the learning process and that they would be excited about what they learn. Above all, we ask You to help them to grow in their discernment and to seek You as the source of all truth.

We also pray for all of their teachers, administrators, and school staff. Please give them wisdom, peace, and joy as they do their jobs in new ways and under stressful conditions. We pray for the school as a whole, that it would be a safe and enjoyable environment - whether in person or online - for students to learn this year.

The school year can be so busy and hectic. Give us wisdom as we make decisions about what activities to add to our calendar. We pray we wouldn't participate in activities just to be busy or just because we feel pressure to do them. Help us to seek to glorify You as we make plans for our children this year.

Above all, we pray for our children's spiritual growth this year. For our children who don't know You, we pray You would open their eyes and hearts so that they would see their need for You and come to You in faith. For our children who do know You, we pray that You would continue Your work in them, changing and transforming them into the likeness of Your Son. Help them to grow in their faith and love for You.

As unexpected and stressful circumstances come upon us this year, give us faith to seek You first. We pray we would trust You and Your plan for our lives. Help us to place our hope in Christ, what He has done for us, and who He is for us.

Be with our children this year. Bless their efforts in school. Help them to grow and mature and thrive. Protect them from harm and sustain them by Your grace.

Please hear all these cries of our heart. Because of Jesus and in His name we pray,

Amen.

### Prayer Guide for Families

I pray that my child will have a hunger for learning and be able to use his/her ability to think and learn - Proverbs 18:15

I pray that my child will study and work with diligence - Proverbs 10:4-5

I pray that my child will be safe from harm - Psalm 91:16

I pray that my child will develop healthy relationships with others - Proverbs 13:20



### **Prayer Guide for Families (continued)**

I pray that my child will relate to others with compassion, respect, and understanding - Ephesians 4:32

I pray that my child will seek the Lord and look to Him for answers - Psalm 34:4

I pray that my child will stand strong in Christ - 2 Timothy 3:10-12

I pray that my child will have good relationships with the teachers and administration and show them respect - Romans 13:1

I pray that the Holy Spirit will do a powerful and gracious work in my child's heart - John 16:7-11

I pray that my child will love God and follow the Lord with all his/her heart, soul, and strength - Matthew 22:37-38

I pray that my child will love his/her neighbors - Matthew 22:39

### **FOR EDUCATORS TO PRAY**

#### **Back-to-School Prayer**

As I step into a new academic year, restore my spirit.  
Renew my passion for sharing Your wisdom.  
And nurture my compassion for those You put in my charge.  
Transform me as I seek to transform.  
Guide me as I seek to guide.  
Open my mind and heart as I seek to open minds and hearts to the Good News of justice and peace.  
Help me listen more deeply to Your Word and to the people around me, so I can walk with my students with empathy and authenticity.  
Keep me attentive to the Wisdom that calls us all to the Kingdom of God.

Amen.

#### **Daily Prayer for Educators**

Dear God, please fill me with Your understanding as I instruct others. Help me to see the individual potential of every student I teach. Fill me with Your patience as I teach others. Help me to keep giving of my time and energy, especially to those who struggle the most. Lord, please give me Your divine wisdom as I am with my class, show me when I must discipline and when I can show mercy. Help me to depend totally on You, for You are the source of my strength, courage, and peace. Above all, may I love and care for each student I teach. Show me how to serve as Christ serves, give as Christ gives, love as Christ loves. I ask all this in the precious name of Jesus, my Savior and friend.

Amen.