August 3



Pray | Ask God to provide everyday moments to share his goodness with our children

We know God is good, but how often do we tell our children?

It is amazing how often the circumstances of everyday life will give us opportunity to teach our children about the goodness of God. But how often do we use these moments with our children to point to God's faithfulness and his never-ending, never-failing love for us? It could be as simple as talking about God's creation when we see a mother bird fly to her nest to feed her young; or as complicated as when you learn of a family friend who is facing a difficult medical diagnosis. As you use everyday moments more frequently to teach your children about the love and faithfulness of God, over time it will become more natural and fluid.



Read | Psalm 78:1-7; Deuteronomy 6:4-9



Reflect | Pray this scripture-based prayer for your kids, grandkids, the kids of Five Oaks, or other kids in your life:

Father in heaven, just as your scripture says in Deuteronomy 6:6-7, "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.", help me to speak about your goodness and faithfulness often to our children. Help me to recognize these moments, and give me the courage, wisdom, and clarity of speech in teaching them about you. As your word says in Psalm 78:4, "We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.", help me speak of your awesome power to our children with boldness and steadfastness. It's in your name we pray, Amen.

Kruger, 2019. "5 Things to Pray for your Kids"



Prayer for the Unreached: People in our world who have little chance of ever meeting a Christian.

This week, please pray for the Kamboh in Pakistan. The Muslim Kambohs distinguished themselves by their courage, generosity and high spirits. They are known as adventurous and enterprising people. Spiritual opposition to the Gospel is intense in Pakistan. There may not be a single follower of Jesus among the Kamboh today. Please pray the Lord will begin to stir their hearts to seek a Savior for their sin. (Information from https://johuaproject.net)

August 4



Pray | Ask God to give you an abundance of patience and kindness

When is the last time you raised your voice at your children? Or lost your patience with them?

Most of us would like to say it was a while ago; but, if we are honest, maybe it was today or just yesterday. If we are to create a home of patience and kindness, then we must consistently demonstrate patience and kindness to our children. They are watching us. They are always watching us. If we teach our kids about patience, kindness, and forgiveness yet they don't see that demonstrated in our own lives right in front of them, then our teaching will ring hollow, and it will prove more difficult to create that kind of home.



Read | Colossians 3:12-14



Reflect | Pray this scripture-based for your kids, grandkids, the kids of Five Oaks, or other kids in your life:

Father in heaven, despite my sinful nature, help me to demonstrate to our children what it looks like to be patient and kind. Help me to build a home that is loving, kind, patient, humble, gentle, and forgiving. As it says in Colossians 3:14, "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.", help me personify and demonstrate all of these with love. I know I will fall short. I know I will not always get it right. I pray that when I do falter, that our children will see my humility in asking for forgiveness, and, in doing so, they will get a glimpse of you. Lastly, Father, I pray that everything I do with our children, and every interaction I have with them, points them to you. I pray it would point them to their Heavenly Father. It's in your name we pray, Amen.

August 5



**Pray** | That God would help you relinquish control over your children's lives; AND trust him with them instead

Our children are on loan to us. They are not ours.

As followers of Christ, this is something that we can sometimes easily forget. We did not create them. We did not design them. We are only their earthly parents. We have been given the privilege to guide and lead them while they are here—pointing them to the ONE who did create them and helping them find their God-given, eternal purpose. When we remember this—when we are reminded of this—it can help us trust the Lord with our children and give over control of our children because they were never ours to begin with.



Read | Psalm 27; Psalm 127:3; Psalm 139:13-14; Jeremiah 1:5



Reflect | Pray this scripture-based prayer for your kids, grandkids, the kids of Five Oaks, or other kids in your life:

Father in heaven, thank you for the wonderful gift of our children. You knew their names before the beginning of time. As Psalm 139 says, you knitted them together in their mother's womb. They are wonderfully and fearfully made. Thank you for the enormous privilege of being their earthly parents and protectors. Lord, as I learn to trust you with YOUR children, help me to seek your face daily and to understand that my most important relationship is not with our children—it is with YOU. I pray that I would seek you and worship you above all else. I also pray that as I trust you with our kids, that I would also trust in your timing. Your ways are not our ways. Your timing is not our timing. As Psalm 27:14 says, "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord." It is in your holy and precious name we pray, Amen.

Day 4
August 6



Pray | Ask God to give your children peace, love, and guidance through all of life's difficulties

Life is hard. Life is painful.

Life is full of disappointments and hardships. It is not *IF* our children will experience them, but *WHEN*. This is one of the hardest aspects of being a parent or leading children. We want to protect them. We don't want to see them hurt. If your children are older, you probably would like to be able to pick them up like you used to when they were crying as a small child—scoop them up, hug and kiss them, and wipe away their tears, tell them everything is going to be ok as they rest their head on your shoulder. As they get older, it's not that easy anymore. We also might be inclined to want to get "even" with those who have done them harm. Get them "justice". But justice is not ours to get for them. As we enter a time of prayer for our children, ask the Lord to reveal to us how we can lead our children through the trials of life and point them to JESUS.



Read | Romans 5:1-5



Reflect | Pray this scripture-based for your kids, grandkids, the kids of Five Oaks, or other kids in your life:

Father in heaven, I pray Romans 5 (particularly verses 2-5) over our children right now. I pray that during the disappointment and loss that they may be experiencing, they would fix their eyes on you and that you would be GLORIFIED through their suffering. I pray that you would grow endurance in them during these times. Please grow them in Godly character, strengthening and refining them in your likeness. During the difficult times, I pray that our children would reflect your character and never lose the HOPE that they forever have in you. Although painful, the battle has already been won. They have VICTORY in you. Lastly, I pray that they would never forget—instead, always remember—the endless and never-ending LOVE that you have for them. There is nothing that they could ever do, no circumstance or difficulty they could ever face, that could reduce or change the amount of LOVE you have for them. May they find comfort and peace in this reminder. We love you so much Lord. Thank you for who you are in our lives and in our children's lives. It's in your name we pray, Amen.

August 7



**Pray** | Ask God to bring comfort to your children when they are lonely

Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" What an incredibly powerful moment, as depicted in Mark's gospel. Here is the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Savior of the world, lonely. Forsaken. When your own children face loneliness at times, I encourage you to read this passage with them. Discuss it. Discuss the truths that are imbedded in that piece of scripture. Hopefully this will give them hope and peace as they take solace in the fact that Jesus also went through loneliness.



Read | Psalm 16: Mark 15:34



Reflect | Pray this scripture-based for your kids, grandkids, the kids of Five Oaks, or other kids in your life:

Father God, as our children face loneliness in this life, I pray that they would take hold of, and remember, the promises guaranteed to them in your holy word:

- You provide the ultimate refuge. You are always there.
- You are always with them even if everyone else isn't.
- You are always in control. Even in times of loneliness, YOU remain on the throne.
- You are the Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End. You never change. You are ALWAYS GOOD.

I also pray that you would bring into their lives, Godly friendships and influences. I pray that, ultimately, our children would rejoice in your presence, and in the nature of who you are, amidst the pain of loneliness. Wrap them up in your loving arms. Make them feel loved and cherished. In your beautiful name we pray, Amen.

August 8



Pray | Ask God to give your children wisdom, discernment, and peace when making a difficult decision

What do you do when faced with a difficult decision?

Many times, what we do, rather than what we say, can have a powerful and lasting impact on our children. It can leave indelible imprints on their minds and hearts. When facing an important decision that will impact the whole family—like whether or not to take a different job, move to a different city, or change careers—do your children see you seek the Lord in prayer for guidance? Do you include them or speak with them about the decision and how to seek God's will and guidance for your family? Or does it appear to them that the decision was made without the Lord's input and direction? How we handle these critical life moments with our children will impact greatly how they seek the Lord's guidance in their own lives.



Read | Philippians 1:9-11



Reflect | Pray this scripture-based for your kids, grandkids, the kids of Five Oaks, or other kids in your life:

Father God, as our children face loneliness in this life, I pray that they would take hold of, and remember, the promises guaranteed to them in your holy word:

- You provide the ultimate refuge. You are always there.
- You are always with them even if everyone else isn't.
- You are always in control. Even in times of loneliness, YOU remain on the throne.
- You are the Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End. You never change. You are ALWAYS GOOD.

I also pray that you would bring into their lives, Godly friendships and influences. I pray that, ultimately, our children would rejoice in your presence, and in the nature of who you are, amidst the pain of loneliness. Wrap them up in your loving arms. Make them feel loved and cherished. In your beautiful name we pray, Amen.

Kruger, 2019. "5 Things to Pray for your Kids"

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