

LAUREN GAINES

powerful

back to

school

prayers



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→ WELCOME

A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

The end of summer brings my heart mixed feelings. I sense the excitement in the air over new possibilities, but I also feel the nerves over the unknown. There is so much potential and excitement over back to school.

As a parent, I've quickly learned I can't control everything. We can't plan everything about the school year, but we *can* pray. And prayer changes things.

I created this resource to encourage parents to go to God's throne of grace and intercede for their children in prayer. In this guide, you will find two weeks of prayer for your children. Meditate on the highlighted scriptures, pray the guided prayers and see where the Holy Spirit leads you. Once you finish the two weeks of prayer, start again or find new scriptures to pray over your family.

Be sure to stay connected with Lauren Gaines on Instagram: [@Inspired.Motherhood](https://www.instagram.com/Inspired.Motherhood) and on [Inspired-Motherhood.com](https://www.Inspired-Motherhood.com).

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Before We Start

Building a Secret Place With God

Matthew 6:6 talks about going into a closet, secret place, or private room to pray. "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." NKJV

Going away to a place where there are no distractions, but only intimate fellowship with our Heavenly Father, elevates our prayer time. Our secret places allow God to reveal His mysteries to us. We limit distractions and interruptions when we go to a private or secret room. Our bodies start to recognize the space and what we do in it. Just like our beds. We know when it is time to sleep because our bodies start to recognize our pillow, pajamas, comforter, etc. Building a secret place with God is so valuable!

As parents, we can gain wisdom and understanding when we spend time in God's presence. So before you start praying, find a secret place with God where you can pray bold, powerful prayers without interruption or distraction!



Your Prayer Place Doesn't Have to Be Fancy

The most important part is creating a clutter free, somewhat empty space that is set apart from the busyness of life.



Before We Start

Learning To Pray the Scriptures

Praying God's word is not complicated. In this guide, I share with you personalized prayers, but you can do this with any scripture you read.

After you read 2 to 3 verses, pray the words that stick out to you. Declare the promises over your family.

Here is an example of how to pray the psalms:

Read Psalm 121:3-4: "He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

Pray: Thank you, heavenly Father, that you never sleep nor slumber. You are always watching over my family and me. I praise you because you are watching over me even when I sleep. I do not have to be afraid because you will not allow my foot to move. Thank you for your faithfulness. Amen.

Speak the words that the Spirit leads you to pray. God's word is so powerful, and when we speak it out loud, something shifts in the atmosphere.

Now for the two weeks of prayer.



A Prayer of Protection Over Our Kids

Scripture:

But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

Psalm 5:11 NIV

Prayer:

Heavenly Father we thank you today for your protection. We rejoice because you spread your divine hand over our children. Lord, we ask you to watch over their coming and going this school year.

In your Word, you said you'd rescue us from every trap and protect us from deadly disease (Psalm 91 verse 3). We declare that promise over our house and over our children today. No evil will touch us. As we come and go this school year, bring us all home safely each day. Amen.



*Your divine protection
surrounds our children*

*The angel of the Lord encamps around
those who fear him, and he delivers
them. Psalm 34:7 NIV*



A Prayer For Healthy Friendship

Scripture:

As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend. Proverbs 27:17 NLT

Prayer:

Jesus, we thank you for friends! Thank you that you created us to be in a relationship with you and with each other. God, I pray ____ (child's name) forms kind, uplifting relationships this school year. Friendships that build each other up and sharpen one another.

God, I pray our children would be wise when choosing friends. Give them discernment to find true friends. Friends who will speak life instead of death to them. Give our children the ability to say no when necessary and the bravery to stand up for what is right.

We ask for divine appointments this year for our children and may we see your hand in their relationships. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.



Let us sharpen one another

*Walk with the wise and become wise;
associate with fools and get in trouble.*

Proverbs 13:30 NLT

*Do not be misled: "Bad company
corrupts good character."*

1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV



A Prayer for a Heart of Learning

Scripture:

Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge.
Proverbs 18:15 NLT

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you that you've given us a brain. The ability to think and learn! This year help our children develop a thirst for knowledge, wisdom, and understanding. May _____ (child's name) hunger and chase after wisdom. Give _____ (child's name) a deep desire to learn. Ready his/her heart to learn this year, at home, school, and church.

Open his/her ears and eyes to see the things You do, O Lord. We pray our children's hearts crave knowledge and seek it out every day. Amen.



Open Our Ears for Knowledge

For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies. Nothing you desire can compare with it. Proverbs 8:11 NLT



A Prayer For Finding the Narrow Path

Scripture:

Show me the right path, O Lord; point out the road for me to follow. Psalms 25:4
NLT

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, show our children the right path this school year. May they not be influenced by the unwise, but seek Your higher purposes in all things. Guide their choices. Order our children's steps and make their paths straight. Show us the right path as a family.

Lord, we pray for wisdom from above. Show us where to spend our time and energy this year. Guide us in everything we do and may we have open ears to hear your voice. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. Amen.



Direct Our Steps

*The Lord directs the steps of the godly.
He delights in every detail of their
lives. Psalm 37:23 NLT*



A Prayer to Accept Correction

Scripture:

Get all the advice and instruction you can, so you will be wise the rest of your life.
Proverbs 19:20 NLT

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, give our children hearts to accept instruction. Give them the desire to learn from the wise and to accept correction. Soften their hearts so they can gain knowledge from their teachers (and parents).

Teach us as parents how to instill respect and compassion in our children. May our children learn to honor and love everyone they come in contact with throughout the day. Amen.



A Harvest of Righteousness

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Hebrews 12:11 NIV



A Prayer for Unspeakable Joy

Scripture:

I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! John 15:11 NLT

Prayer:

We rejoice in your name today. Thank you Jesus for setting us free and for dancing over us at all times. Lord draw our children to you today! As they rejoice in your love, fill them with unspeakable joy. Overflowing JOY!

As _____ (child's name) moves throughout his/her day, may he/she find little things to rejoice in. May our children delight in learning! Keep their minds focused on excellent, praiseworthy things. Thank you, Jesus!



We Shout For Joy

I will shout for joy and sing your praises, for you have ransomed me.

Psalms 71:23 NLT



A Prayer to Be a Kind Friend

Scripture:

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Colossians 3:12 NIV

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your lovingkindness toward us. We rejoice as your chosen people. God clothe our children with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience this year.

May they stand up against the bullies, speaking life to each other at all times. Guide us as their parents to encourage kindness and patience in their hearts. As we plant these seeds, Lord make them grow!



Let us Help One Another

*If either of them falls down,
one can help the other up.
But pity anyone who falls
and has no one to help them up.
Ecclesiastes 4:10 NIV*



A Prayer for the Teachers

Scripture:

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being. Ephesians 3:16 NIV

Prayer:

We thank you for our children's teachers! We pray you would strengthen teachers with your power this school year. Give them guidance on instruction, strength to complete all the tasks, and energy to joyfully interact with their students. God give our teachers efficiency as they work. May they find times of rest and if they do not know you, make yourself known to them this school year.

If you are your child's teacher this year: Thank you Lord for your strength. Give me wisdom from Heaven on how to instruct my children this year. Give me the strength to complete all the tasks and to joyfully teach my children. They are gifts from Heaven and I thank you for your unending grace this school year.



With Words that Descend like Dew

*Let my teaching fall like rain
and my words descend like dew,
like showers on new grass,
like abundant rain on tender plants.*

Deuteronomy 32:2 NIV



A Prayer for Finding Purpose

Scripture:

But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. Psalms 33:11 NIV

Prayer:

Thank you Jesus that your plans stand firm forever! God, we pray you would reveal your wonderful purposes to our children. Show our children and their teachers the gifts and talents you have placed inside of them. Fill us with joy as we search these gifts out.

Reveal to our children the great things you have planned for their lives. Point our kids toward the road you ordained for them. We thank you for your greater purposes. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.



He Will Fulfill His Purposes

*I cry out to God Most High, to God who
will fulfill his purpose for me.*

Psalm 57:2 NLT



A Prayer for Common Sense & Insight

Scripture:

Common sense and success belong to me. Insight and strength are mine.
Proverbs 8:14 NLT

Prayer:

Lord, we thank you for your promises and your faithfulness. Today we claim your promise that common sense and success belong to our children. Thank you that our children are filled with wisdom and understanding.

Throughout the day give them insight beyond their years. In any situation they face, may they use sound judgment. We thank you that you have given our children a sound mind! In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.



A Sound Mind

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear,
but of power and of love and of a
sound mind.*

2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV



A Prayer for Peace

Scripture:

'May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.' Numbers 6:24-26
NLT

Prayer:

Lord we thank you that you are the God of peace. We thank you that even when the earth is trembling we can be still and know you are God. Nothing can separate us from You.

We know the school year can be a stressful time for our children, but we praise you for giving our children peace even in the midst of the storm. As we sit in your presence and focus our hearts and minds on you, rain down your perfect peace on our family. We trust that no matter what, you will guide us, protect us, and be gracious toward us. Amen.



My Peace I Give You

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27 NIV



A Prayer for Perseverance

Scripture:

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6 NIV

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are always right beside us. We praise you because we can rest knowing you never leave us! Remind our children today how you hold their right hands. Give them strength and endurance to run the good race of faith.

Your word says you will carry on the good work you started until the day of Christ Jesus. Continue touching _____'s (child's name) heart. Remind _____ (child's name) of your steadfast love for him/her. Hold him/her up on your wings to keep fighting the good fight. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Run with Endurance

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. Hebrews 12:1 NLT



A Prayer to Know God More

Scripture:

Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, "My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure," Isaiah 46:9-10 NKJV

Prayer:

Lord, we praise you because there is no one like you! You are the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end. No one is greater than you. We thank you that YOU have the final say. Give our children your might and strength. Make yourself real to their hearts.

We know the enemy may initiate things and start things to steer our children off course or make them doubt, but only you God know the beginning from the end. Your purposes will be accomplished no matter what. Reveal to our children your heart and may they clearly see there is no like You. Amen.



The Lord is Patient

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

2 Peter 3:9 NLT



A Prayer for a Victorious Life

Scripture:

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand. Isaiah 41:10 NLT

Prayer:

Thank you Jesus that you are holding up our children right now in your victorious right hand. The battle is already won and we are on the winning side. Thank you for your sacrifice so that we may live. Lord help our children live victorious lives.

May their hearts not be discouraged by any setbacks this year. For we know Our God has overcome every sickness, disease, and lie of the enemy. We claim the abundant life you promise for our families. May our children experience your mighty power this year. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.



Abundant Life is Ours

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 10:10 NKJV



An End Note from the Author

Create a hedge for your children

Thank you for working through this prayer guide. We live in an uncertain world and at times it seems as though our children are under attack. But we have the power to push back the darkness. The same spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you.

As parents, we have the power to pray a hedge of protection over our children. We can cover them with prayer before they head out the door each day. God promises to watch over our every step, but before we receive, we must ask. Keep praying, asking, and declaring!

For more daily encouragement be sure to follow Inspired Motherhood on Instagram [@inspired.motherhood](https://www.instagram.com/inspired.motherhood) and if you'd like to connect with the author, Lauren Gaines, you can reach her at Lauren@inspired-motherhood.com

How cool that you are joining parents all around the world to pray for the next generation. Do not lose hope. God is still on the throne.

With Love,
Lauren Gaines

