

Day 1

July 27



Pray | That [name] would seek your will to be done.

PRAYER CAN BE DAUNTING and awkward for adults, but children can have a much more innocent view of prayer. Listen to them pray as though they're having a conversation, asking for things adults might deem menial or insignificant. But this is how a prayer life of submission starts! Jesus became indignant when adults tried to shoo the children away from him, and told us that without a childlike faith, we will not receive the kingdom of God.

We should pray that the children we know continue to possess that childlike faith, and conversations with God continue throughout their lives, so that going to God in prayer feels instinctive or even habitual. As they grow in this prayer life, they will be able to trust him more and more and be able to submit to his will.



Read | Matthew 6:6-13; Mark 10:13-16; Romans 8:28



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on one or more of the following:

Spend some time praying for the children in your life. Use the prayer below or personalize the verses in today's passages.

Lord, I pray that as [insert name] grows up, s/he would come to know how much you love your children. I pray that s/he would develop a prayer life of crawling into your lap, experiencing a deeper and deeper relationship with you and that s/he would experience the power of your presence and the power of prayer. I pray that s/he would come to trust you to meet his/her needs, to help him/her through life, and to always have their best interests at heart so s/he can fully submit their will to you. Let me be an example of a praying person to him/her.

Pray Romans 8:28, thanking God for working all things for good and calling you to his purpose.



Pray | Pray for the World

Pray for our Ministry Partners in Cuba: God is working in the church in Cuba, but there are still needs for training, education, resources, and facilities. So please pray for the development of the reach Global partnership between Cuba and North American churches. Please also pray that ministry can take place and that the Gospel will go forward in spite of travel restrictions and good and fuel storages resulting from political tensions.

Day 2

July 28



Pray | That [insert name] would be transformed every day into your likeness.

WE LIVE IN A WORLD OF MATERIALISM, constantly bombarded by the messages that say we are not enough, we don't have enough, and we deserve more. Despite our immense economic advantage over most of the rest of the world, we find ourselves discontent and focused on what we don't have.

We can minister to the kids in our lives and teach them like Paul says, to be content whether we have a little or a lot. When we are blessed, we can submit it all to God and use those resources to minister to the outcasts and the broken. When we continue to look at and immerse ourselves in what Philippians calls good, holy, just and of good report, we transform our hearts and minds into the heart of Jesus. Then we can keep our eyes on him, off the world and its messages, remain content, and minister to others.



Read | Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:4-13; James 1:27



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on one or more of the following:

Spend some time praying for the children in your life. Use the prayer below or personalize the verses in today's passages.

Lord, I pray that [insert name] would come to know you and the fulfilling peace you bring, despite whatever circumstances s/he may face. I pray that s/he would bring all their requests to you without fear that their request is too big or too small. I pray that they would be constantly filling their minds and hearts with your love and light to combat the darkness of the world that we are all steeped in every day. Lord, help me to be an example to him/her of contentment and peace in knowing you are always near.

Pray Romans 12:2, asking God to transform you by renewing your mind, giving you the ability to test and approve God's good, pleasing and perfect will.

Day 3

July 29



Pray | Thank you, God, for loving us so completely and freely.

BEING ABLE TO FREELY RECEIVE and give God's love is a gift.

We discussed trusting God enough to fully submit to him on Day 1 of this week, and contentment in God on Day 2. When we trust God and find contentment in him, we can freely receive and give love. We don't need to boast in what we have when we are fully content with what we have been given. We don't need to puff ourselves up because we know we are loved and favored by the king of kings. We don't feel selfishly attached to things on earth when we know our treasure is in Heaven. Things that might typically anger or frustrate us seem smaller in comparison to God's love, and in turn rattle us less and less. When we can love others freely, they can experience God's love and find trust and contentment in him, and then they are freed up to pay it forward.



Read | Matthew 6:19-21; 1 Corinthians 13:4-5



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on one or more of the following:

Personalize the prayers below for yourself or someone in your life or use today's verses as you spend some time in prayer today.

Lord, I pray that [insert name] would find in you a treasure worth keeping. I pray that it would free her/him from the love of things on earth. I pray that you would become more important to him/her than anything else on earth, and I pray that as you become more important to her/him, s/he can spill your love and be a blessing to others.

I pray that [insert name] would embody these verses. I pray that through your love, [insert name] is patient, [insert name] is kind. [insert name] does not envy, s/he does not boast, s/he is not proud. [insert name] is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not easily angered, and [insert name] keeps no record of wrongs. Let me be an example of this love to [insert name].

Day 4
July 30



Pray | That your children would know there is a spiritual battle and that they would feel empowered to fight in it.

WE LIVE IN A SPIRITUAL BATTLE ZONE, and we take hits, sometimes really painful ones. But we are not helpless. We can fight for ourselves and are expected to fight for others. We fight alongside the Holy Spirit, understanding that our war is against spiritual forces and not against earthly forces. We can use the word of God, a powerful weapon, to know and speak truth, protecting us from Satan's lies and speaking light into darkness. The Bible says that the Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword so we should steep ourselves in it and really know it to use it. We can prepare for Satan's lies by knowing this truth. Living in a close relationship with God helps deflect hurts inflicted by people and circumstances influenced by Satan. We can be ready to stand up for peace and justice. We can have faith that God can and does protect us from evil. And we can wear the helmet of salvation, symbolizing Christ's victory on the cross. There is so much work to do and so much we can do when we fully arm and prepare ourselves.



Read | Ephesians 5:8-9, 6:10-17; Hebrews 4:12-13; 1 Peter 5:8-9



Spend some time reflecting on one or more of the following:

Personalize the prayer below for yourself or someone in your life or use today's verses as you spend some time in prayer today.

Lord, I pray that [insert name] would know your Word. I pray that s/he would study the Bible and hear Godly teaching to fill him with the truth. I know that Satan is always seeking to fill his/her mind with lies, so I pray that s/he would be able to combat the lies with your truth. Your word is truth. I pray that his/her eyes would be opened to the fact that there is a spiritual battle and a spiritual enemy who is always looking for easy prey, and I pray that s/he would stand firm against that enemy. I pray that you would make me an example of a mighty warrior for him/her.

Pray Ephesians 5:8, asking God to help you to live in the light of the Lord.

Day 5

July 31



Pray | Lord, make me an example of you for the children in my life.

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS, part of our job is to disciple others and to pass on God's teaching to the children in our lives or to those who desire discipleship. This of course, means we too need discipleship.

We know that God wants us to know him, and he wants to reveal himself to us so we can pass on to others our own knowledge and wisdom. We can ask God to bless them that they might be able to discern the lessons and love God has for them. We can help them develop a lifelong habit of reliance on God and of reading the Scriptures, giving them a solid foundation for navigating the world.



Read | 1 Kings 2:9; Psalm 78:1-7; Matthew 13:16-17; 34-35



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on one or more of the following:

Personalize the prayer below for yourself or someone in your life, or use today's verses as you spend some time in prayer today.

Lord, I pray that I would disciple your children the way that you intend me to. I pray that you would give them a double portion of what you have given me. I pray that they would have eyes to see and ears to hear what you want to reveal to them through your Word. Please develop in them a love for your word and a deeper understanding of it, so that your word would flow from them in times of pain, of adversity against you, of opportunity to share you, and as they minister to other children and adults in their lives. Thank you for being faithful to complete the work you've started in your children.

If you are not yet a child of God, pray John 3:16. Thank God for sending his son into the world to save you and give you eternal life. Ask him to forgive you for living outside of his will until now and let him know that you believe in him. Reach out to a pastor or small group member if you have questions.

Day 6
August 1



Pray | Lord, pour your love into me so together we show others your love.

FOR OUR CHILDREN, we seek to create a home of love: of compassion, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness. For the children in our lives, we seek to be someone safe. Someone who exudes those qualities feels safe to others, and to those who don't know Jesus, it piques their interest and draws them to him. That quiet whisper of love is a powerful magnet and the sooner we impart it to our children, the longer it lasts.



Read | 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Colossians 3:12-14



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on one or more of the following:

Personalize the prayer below for yourself or someone in your life or use today's verses as you spend some time in prayer today.

Lord, I pray that as I receive your love, it would spill out onto the children in my life. I pray that they would know beyond a shadow of a doubt, their entire lives, that they are dearly loved by you. I pray that your love would help them to see you more clearly. I pray they would know that this love is unconditional. I pray they would recognize your love by its qualities: it is compassionate, kind, humble, gentle, patient and forgiving, and that they would be able to discern your perfect love from the imperfect love in the world. I pray they would exude this love to be a blessing to those around them and draw others closer to you.

Ask God to help you remember the truth of 1 Corinthians 13:13 as you go about your day. Faith, hope and love remain, but the greatest of these is love and the source of true love is God.

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