

Intentional Faith Path Plan

Child's Name: _____

How will you be intentional this next year?

- ☐ Pray daily for and with my child.
- ☐ Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- ☐ Bless my child daily.
- ☐ Schedule and have regular family times.
- ☐ _____

The next step on the Faith Path is *Bible*, recommended at age seven. We will offer a free *Bible* kit to guide you. Access more Faith@Home resources and Faith Path Kits at: maranathafree.com/faith-home.

Recommended Resources

Pray Big for Your Child by Will Davis, Jr.

Creative Family Prayer Times by Mike and Amy Nappa

What Happens When I Talk to God by Stormie Omartian

Power of a Praying Kid by Stormie Omartian

Excellent articles and podcasts available at:

<https://www.desiringgod.org/topics/children>



What kind of legacy do you want to leave for your children? We want to pray for our children but often do not know where to start or how to persevere. This booklet is a helpful guide for using Scripture to pray for your child, grandchild, or the children in your church.



Prayer

Teach Your Child to Talk to God

One of the greatest things you can do is to help your child develop a relationship with God through prayer. Prayer is how we communicate with and connect to our Heavenly Father. Nurture your child's faith by praying together as a family and by guiding them in the practice of praying individually.

Be an Example

Allow your child to see and hear you pray on a regular basis. Take time to stop and give thanks in times when God blesses you or answers a prayer. Model prayer in times of difficulty or when seeking wisdom for important decisions. Pray for those in your family and others you know are in need. It is also very important that children hear us praising God for who he is as well as confessing our sins, especially when they are directly affected by them.

Jump Start Prayers

Use these ideas to help start prayer time with your child.

- **Sentence Prayers:** Take turns allowing each person who is comfortable doing so to pray a very short, one sentence prayer. It can be as simple as "Please heal Uncle Paul." "Thank you for giving Troy a new friend." or "I'm sorry for losing my temper with everyone earlier today."
- **Fill-in-the-Blank Prayers:** Use these as simple starter lines:
 - God, I love you because...
 - God, you are awesome because...
 - God, I'm sorry for...
 - Thank you God for...
 - God, please help...

Prayer Tools and Ideas

- **Prayer Board:** Keep a dry erase board or the calendar included with this kit in a high traffic area of your home and use it to note items the family is praying for together.
- **Prayer Journal:** Consider purchasing a journal for your child to start recording prayers and how God answers them.
- **Mirror prayers:** Using a dry erase marker, write a list of prayer concerns on the child's bathroom mirror so he or she remembers to pause and pray after brushing teeth.

Family Routine

Making prayer a regular part of your family culture will help make it a normal part of your child's life. Consider incorporating some of the following in your family routine.

- **Mealtime:** Briefly give thanks before you eat, then wait until everyone has finished to have a longer time of prayer together.
- **Bedtime:** The first person in the family to go to bed (usually the youngest) alerts everyone else that it is time for an end-of-day prayer together.
- **Drive time:** As you start the engine, pause for a brief prayer together asking God to go with you and invite everyone to pray a sentence prayer for any concern about the upcoming activities of the day. This is a great routine to begin as you drive to school in the morning.
- **Walks:** Taking a walk together is the ideal time to pray. Pause at the end to pray about the matters discussed during your walk.

Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.
(Deut. 6:7)