

PRAYER GUIDE

Prayers for the
MOTHER-TO-BE
and
HER BABY



PrayerPower

Helping God's people learn to pray.

Prayer Guide for The Mother-to-Be and Her Baby
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Prayers from God's Word

These prayers are from Bible verses that have been written in a way that makes them easy to pray. They include requests for not only practical, material needs, but for deeper spiritual needs as well. Because they are written from Scripture, they express God's will for your life and the life of your child. And when we pray His will, He promises to answer! (1 John 5:14-15)

Easy Ways to Use These Prayers

- Read them just as they appear:
“Give me the wisdom I need to keep me from making huge mistakes.” (James 1:5-6)
- Use them as an outline for your personal prayer. Pray a sentence or two, just enough to present a complete thought. Then add your own personal prayer, before moving on to the next thought:

“Give me the wisdom I need to keep me from making huge mistakes.” (James 1:5-6)

You might add something like—*“Please show me what to do about (something specific that’s going on in your life)...”*

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Fill Me with Joy

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

It's amazing that You personally are making this baby within me, even now as I pray. The Bible tells me that my child is being wonderfully made! Your eyes see this little one. Even now my child's days are planned and written in Your book. (Psalm 139:13-16)

Help me to be confident that the same is true of me. You planned my life before I was conceived. You knew me before Your hands formed me. You chose me to be this child's mom, no matter how inadequate I feel. (Jeremiah 29:11; 1:5)

Help me to believe that I'm the apple of Your eye, that I'm precious and honored in Your sight. Give me faith to believe that You are watching over me and my baby. Help me to live in Your amazing grace. Help me to accept the truth that I've been chosen in Christ to be Your special treasure. May it be the same with my child. (Zechariah 2:8; Isaiah 43:4; Deuteronomy 14:2; Ephesians 1:11)

Fill my pregnancy with joy! In Jesus' name, amen.

Draw My Child to Christ

Father, I pray for my child...

May this precious baby receive Your gift of faith early in life. By Your grace may this child be saved and find new life in Christ. Thank You for wanting everyone to be saved and know the truth—that You are the only God, and only Jesus can bring us to You. (Ephesians 2:8-9; John 3:3, 5; 1 Timothy 2:1-6; John 14:6)

You are able to do anything. Nothing is impossible for You! Even the heart of a king is in Your hand, and You can direct it any way You want it to go. Take my baby's heart in Your hand. Direct this precious life along the path toward Jesus at the earliest age. (Luke 18:27; Proverbs 21:1)

Draw my child to Christ; enable this little one to come. May this baby one day believe in and receive Christ as the Son of God. Thank You that we are saved not by the good things that we do, but by Your mercy. (John 6:44, 65; 1:12; Titus 3:4-5)

Love my child as Your own. In Jesus' name, amen

Hold Me Close

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

How remarkable, that You know the number of hairs on this little one's head—and on mine. You who are the Creator of everything and everyone, who know the names of all the stars, are aware when even a sparrow falls from the tree. You know me, and You know my child.

(Matthew 10:30; Genesis 1; Psalm 147:4; Matthew 10:29)

Thank You for creating us with a spirit, soul, and body. With our spirit we can know and love You in a personal way. Somehow through Your Spirit, You are able come and live within us. Help that to happen quickly for my child! (Genesis 1:26; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; John 17:3; 1 John 1:3; John 14:17, 23)

Every day, help me to desire to know You better. Teach me how to look for You, to come near You. Help me to spend time with You each day, and make me a better mother for it. (Ephesians 1:17; Jeremiah 29:13; James 4:8; Matthew 6:6)

Keep me close to You for the sake of my child. In Jesus' name, amen.

Guide Me with Your Spirit

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Early in life, may this little one not only come to Christ, but have a personal relationship with Him and with You, our heavenly Father. I want that too! Help us both to know You, and to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Help us to know Him as our Counselor and Helper. (John 17:3; 1 John 1:3; Ephesians 1:17; John 14:16-17)

Help me to live a Spirit-filled life. May the fruit of the Spirit overflow in my life, so that Christ's character is evident, especially to my child. Work in this little one's life as You are working in me, to make me like Christ. (Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 5:22-23; Romans 8:29)

Make me into a person who's always thinking about things that are good and true and right. Keep my thoughts pure. Take control of what I say. Help me to guard my words, so that I'll be the one who encourages and builds others up—especially my child. May I always be gentle as I care for this little one. (Philippians 4:8; Psalm 141:3; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; 2:7)

Help me to be the positive influence my child needs. In Jesus' name, amen.

Teach Me How to Live

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

How I thank You that You who begin Your work in us will complete it, that I'm a work in progress. I have so much to learn! Help me trust You and not depend on my own understanding. Help me to always look to You, with the faith that You will show me what I need to know.

(Philippians 1:6; Proverbs 3:5-6)

Help me to want to obey You. Give me the desire to spend time reading the Bible. Help me to understand it, to think about it, and pray about how to apply it to my life. Help me to not only read it, but to do what it says. Show me how to teach Your Word to this little one from a young and tender age. Put Your Word in this child's mind and write it on this little one's heart. (Psalm 119:36, 15, 23; James 1:22; Deuteronomy 4:1-9; Jeremiah 31:33)

Make me strong in Christ for the sake of my baby. Help me to live in a way that will always please You. Show me how to pass these values along to my child. (Philippians 4:13; Colossians 1:9-10)

May I raise this child in peace. In Jesus' name, amen.

Help Me Teach My Child

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Thank You for describing Yourself a potter, and us as the clay in Your hands. It's wonderful to realize that even now, You are shaping this delicate child inside me, just as Your hands once formed me. (Isaiah 64:8; 44:2)

Counsel and watch over this child. Instruct this little one early in life to know how to live. May it be the same for me—guide me along right paths. Help me to make right choices. (Psalm 32:8; 23:3, 4; Joshua 24:15)

On my own, I cannot raise this child to live a godly life. Help me to put my faith in You, to believe that You will help me. Give me the grace to teach this child Your truth as best I can. Help my little one to be obedient. Help me to know when and how to discipline with love. (Proverbs 20:11; Mark 11:22; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:1; Proverbs 13:24)

Help me to be the mother You have created me to be, the mom my baby needs. In Jesus' name, amen.

Give Me Wisdom to Raise My Child

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Help me to raise this child as though I'm in a race, determined to win the prize. Help me to be more than a good mom—make me the best! Help me to complete the work You have prepared for me, to raise my child well in Your wisdom and strength. (1 Corinthians 9:24; Ephesians 2:10; Colossians 2:3; Psalm 29:11)

Give me the wisdom I need to keep me from making huge mistakes. I don't want to be influenced by the world I'm living in. Keep me from wanting to live according to the world's values, for my baby's sake and mine.

(1 Corinthians 1:20; John 17:15-18; 1 John 2:15)

When situations with my child arise, as I know they will, teach me what to do. Help me to handle everything as You would want me to. Show me Your ways—teach me and give me Your guidance. Give me knowledge and good judgment. (Psalm 25:4-5; 119:66)

Help me to raise this child as You want me to. In Jesus' name, amen.

Keep Me Faithful to Pray

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Teach me to pray. Help me to always pray and never give up. Help me to be a woman of prayer, one who not only prays *for* my child, but who prays *with* this little one. Help me to teach my child to pray by my example. (Luke 11:1; 18:1)

Help me to pray according to Your will, for the things You want to do in our lives. Help me to pray unselfish prayers, with right motives in my heart. (1 John 5:14-15; James 4:2-3)

When I pray, help me to pray with faith, to believe and not have doubt. No matter what needs we have, help me always to come to You with the confidence that You will help us. (Mark 11:22-24; Hebrews 4:16)

Help me to pray all the time, to never stop praying. When I don't know what to ask, let the Holy Spirit search my heart and pray for me. (1 Thessalonians 5:17; Romans 8:26-27)

Help me to pray in a way that will make a real difference in my child's life. In Jesus' name, amen.

Keep Me Free from Worry

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Thank You for Your promise that You will fulfill Your purpose for our lives. What You have planned for me and my child, You will do. Your plans never fail! (Isaiah 46:10-11; Psalm 57:2)

When I worry, help me to turn to You and keep these things in mind. When I don't know how I'll manage, help me to turn my mind to You. Help me not to worry about anything, but to pray about everything with a thankful heart. Bless me with the peace that can't be explained. (Psalm 16:8-9; Philippians 4:6-7)

Teach me how to trust You and Your unfailing love. Keep me certain that our lives are in Your hands. When others are putting their faith in the things of the world, help me to trust in You and Your name. Give me Your peace. Show me how to rest in You, how to give You all my worries and concerns. (Psalm 13:5; 31:15; 20:7; John 14:27; Psalm 62:1; 1 Peter 5:7)

Help me to be confident that You are faithful and I can count on You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Provide for Us

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Every good gift, every perfect gift comes from You. Thank You for giving me an especially precious gift in this child. The Bible tells us that You will never stop doing good things for us, so long as we don't turn away from You. Help me to be faithful! (James 1:17; Genesis 30:20; Jeremiah 32:40)

Help me to follow You as my Shepherd, trusting You to take care of my needs. Make me lie down like a sheep in green pastures, to be able to rest without struggling to make ends meet. Help me to keep my eyes on You. (Psalm 23:1-2; Hebrews 12:2)

Teach me to put You first in my life. Help me to live the way You want me to, for then I'll never have to worry about where we'll live, or having enough to eat or the clothes we need. As I learn to put You first and live for You, help me to believe that You will provide for everything we need (Matthew 6:25-33)

May Your love be real to me. In Jesus' name, amen

Sustain Me

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

My child's days are numbered. Help me to cherish every one of them. (Psalm 139:16)

Thank You for the privilege of carrying this baby. Give me wisdom to make the very best decisions regarding my care throughout my pregnancy and delivery. Keep me strong and healthy. Don't let me question Your willingness to provide wisdom when I ask—and remind me to ask! (James 1:5-6)

Give me the endurance and patience I need. Help me to put forth every effort to live the life You have laid out for me my child. Help me to let go of things that can hold me back and the sins that can so easily cause me problems. (Romans 15:5; Hebrews 12:1)

Help me to be a good example for my child, living as a new person. Help me to be like Jesus. Show me how to leave my old nature and way of life behind me. (2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Thessalonians 1:6; Ephesians 4:22-24)

Help my child to see Christ in me. In Jesus' name, amen.

Carry Me

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Thank You for revealing in the Bible that You are our Shepherd who picks us up like lambs in Your arms and carries us close to Your heart. Help my child to feel secure in Your everlasting arms. (Isaiah 40:11; Deuteronomy 33:27)

Like a gentle shepherd, lead me as I carry this baby. When I'm exhausted, give me strength to make it through the day. Teach me to put my hope in You. Help me to believe that as I trust You, I'll find the strength and the energy I need to keep going. (Isaiah 40:11, 28-31)

When it's hard to sleep in the night, help me to find the sleep I need whenever I can. Let my sleep to be pleasant and restful, so that I'll wake up full of energy and ready for the day. Help me to lie down and sleep soundly, because I have the confidence that You will watch over us. (Psalm 127:2; Jeremiah 31:25-26; Psalm 4:8; 121:3)

Hold us close to Your heart. In Jesus' name, amen.

Surround Us

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

How great You are! From the moment we're born, You continue to care for us. I know I can trust You with my child, and with me. (Psalm 71:6)

Even now I ask You to go ahead of us and stay behind us—surround us and bless us. Keep us safe as though You are covering us with Your hand. Shade us from the heat and shelter us from the storms of life. Be our hiding place. Show me how to live as though I'm in a secret place with You, protected by Your presence. (Psalm 139:5; Isaiah 25:4; Psalm 32:7; 91:1-2)

Help me to be sure of Your presence, to know it is good for me when You are close to me. Help me to trust Your promise to never leave us nor forsake us. Give me faith to know that You will always be with us. (Psalm 73:28; Hebrews 13:5; Matthew 28:20)

Help me to sense Your presence. In Jesus' name, amen.

Keep Us Safe

Father, I pray for myself and my child...

Help me not to be afraid. Calm my fears with Your love. Give me the sense that You are holding me firmly in Your hand. Keep me strong for the sake of my child. (Isaiah 41:10)

When I am overwhelmed, help me to turn my mind to You. Help me to trust You as the One who is our stronghold and protection in times of trouble. Bless us with Your peace at all times, no matter what we're going through. (Colossians 3:2; Psalm 9:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)

Help me to build our lives on the firm foundation of Your truth. May we live according to everything Jesus taught, so that we'll be strong and secure no matter what comes against us. (Isaiah 28:16; Matthew 7:24-27)

Help me to trust in Your faithfulness so that I won't live in fear. Keep my faith steady for the sake of my little one. (1 Corinthians 1:9; Isaiah 41:14)

Make Your love be real to us. In Jesus' name, amen.

As You Pray These Prayers...

You Are Praying God's Will

Think what it will mean to you and your baby as God hears and answers these prayers. You're praying His will into your lives—You're praying what's on His heart. If you've prayed one prayer a day, you've realized it takes only a minute or two. Keep praying through them, adding your own prayers to make them even more personal.

Consider that Prayer Is More than Asking

The main purpose of prayer is to help us know God. To do this, we have to spend time with Him, just as we must with any person if we want to know that person well.

(John 17:3; 1 John 1:3)

1. Begin Each Day with God

Jesus taught us that it is important to have some quiet time with our Father every day. Early morning is usually the best time, before we're caught up in busyness. If this isn't a part of your daily life now, ask God to help you begin with just a few minutes, and He will.

(Matthew 6:6; 9-13)

2. Come with clean hands and a pure heart.

The Bible promises that we can draw close to God if we have clean hands and a pure heart, and He will come close to us (James 4:8). That simply means we must confess our sins. When we do, God forgives us and makes us clean (1 John 1:9), and we may come to Him.

3. Have a listening ear.

God usually speaks to us (John 10:4-5) as we read the Bible. You don't have to spend a long time in the Word, but for you to hear His voice clearly, it is important to spend at least a few minutes in the Bible every day. Pray as you read. Ask God to speak to your heart: *What do you want me to know today? What do I need to learn?*

Knowing God Personally

Jesus said that eternal life is *knowing God* (John 17:3). We have that life the moment we trust Jesus for salvation. We can then live every day in a real, vital, personal relationship with God. What a privilege, available to all of God's children! (See page 18.)

Are You a Child of God?

This is a question that is easy to answer—if you aren't sure—by verses from the Bible that reveal this truth:

- Have you believed in Christ, trusting Him, relying on Him for everything? Have you received Christ into your heart and life? (John 1:12)
- Have you “believed in Your heart” that God raised Jesus from the dead, and “spoken with your mouth” that Jesus is Lord? (Romans 10:9)
- Do you sense that you are a new creation in Christ evidenced by a desire to spend time in God's Word? (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Are you experiencing God's call to live as “a child of light,” including the conviction and power to turn away from sin? (Ephesians 5:8-9; Luke 13:3, 5)
- Is the “fruit of the Holy Spirit” influencing your life and relationships in increasing measure? (Galatians 5:22-23)

If these things don't seem real in your life and you want them to be, speak to a pastor or godly friend, or pray like this:

“God, I believe Jesus is Your Son. I now receive Him as the Lord, who is the Savior of my life. I believe that Jesus died for my sins, that He was buried and raised again from the dead. I confess that I have sinned against You and I am sorry. Thank You for forgiving me! Thank You for the gift of salvation!”

“Please strengthen me to love You, to serve You and to turn away from the temptations and sins of this world. Thank You for the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal and forever Savior! I pray in His name, amen.”

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