

# 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 Bible is Prayer, recommended at age seven.

## 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
- **Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer Storybook: A True Story of How You Can Talk With God** by Laura Wifler and Catalina Echeverri

# PRAYER

Teach Your Child  
to Talk to God

**FAITH**  
**PATH**

Recommended for  
**6+ years**



One of the greatest things you can do is to help your child develop a relationship with God by teaching them to pray. 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 who are in need.

## 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 pre-written language to guide and focus prayer times such as the following starter lines:
  - God, I love you because...
  - Thank you, God, for...
  - God, please help...
  - God, I'm sorry for...

## 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 your child's bathroom mirror so he or she remembers to pause and pray after brushing teeth.
- **Prayer Sticks:** Write prayer prompts on craft sticks. Put in a jar and select a couple to pray over each night.

## 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.
  - **Mealttime:** 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. Or pause at the end to pray about the matters discussed during your walk.

## PRAYER

### DEAR PARENT,

We believe that God designed the family as the primary place for discipleship. The Faith Path framework exists to partner with you as you guide your child's spiritual journey one step at a time. Age appropriate kits have been created to help you leverage the best faith formation strategy for your child's stage of development. In this Prayer kit, you will find practical ideas and suggested resources to help you begin the journey well. We urge you to start today by taking the following simple steps.

### STEP ONE: LEARN

Visit **myfaithpath.com** and use the password **myhome2020**

Click on **PRAYER** for an overview and videos that explain this particular Faith Path step. You will hear from both experts and ordinary families as they describe the importance of intentional parenting and share practical suggestions from their experiences. You will also find links to other helpful resources.

### STEP TWO: START

Use the guide and tools to help you get started with this step. This kit includes a Prayer Calendar, ideal for dry erase notes that can help your child create a habit of prayer.

Thank you for taking seriously the task of guiding your child's faith. We hope you find these tools and the Faith Path framework helpful in the process of forming the faith of your child at home.

**The next step on the Faith Path is Bible, recommended at age seven.**

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▶ *Mark your calendar each time you pray together.*


**My Home's Top Prayer Requests**  
*List family members and write in their prayer requests.*

S M T W T F S

# PRAYER CALENDAR



## Make a commitment to be a 7•5•2 home!

- 7 – Pray seven days a week individually for your spouse, kids, grandkids, parents, siblings, etc.
- 5 – Pray five times a week (including meals & bedtime) as a family.
- 2 – Pray at least two times a week with your spouse.

## Suggestions for using your Prayer Calendar:

- 1. Place your Prayer Calendar on your fridge or in some other central location of your home.
- 2. Have each family member use a specific color marker or sticker to mark their 7's of individual prayer time. Write out a 5 or use a sticker to mark your times of praying together as a family. Write out a 2 or a different specific sticker to mark your times of praying together as a couple.
- 3. Use the "My Home's Top Prayer Requests" for each family member to share their prayer requests that they would like the family to pray for.
- 4. Celebrate at the end of each week and talk about the prayers that God has answered in the week.
- 5. For the family prayer, give each family member a certain prayer day that they can decide when you will pray, where you will pray, and how you will pray. Ex: Mom's day is on Monday and she has decided that the family will go on a prayer walk after dinner; or five-year-old Jessie's day is Thursday and she wants to have prayer together during breakfast.
- 6. Use this simple prayer prompting to jumpstart your family prayer times. Have an adult or teen start the following statements and then have each member take turns filling in the blank:
  - ☐ God, I love you because...
  - ☐ Thank you God for...
  - ☐ God, please help...
  - ☐ God, I am sorry for...