

10 PRAYERS for our SCHOOLS

Pray for our nation's schools, students, and teachers --
for their safety, purpose, focus, and more!



6 verses to pray for students going back to school:

S

Self-control:

"Be alert and of sober mind." -1 Peter 5:8

C

Courage:

"Be strong and courageous." -Joshua 1:9

H

Help from the Holy Spirit: "Those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires."
-Romans 8:5

O

Opportunities to do good: "As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people."
-Galatians 6:10

O

Overcome evil: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."
-Romans 12:21

L

Love God and others: "Love the Lord your God... and love your neighbor as yourself."
-Matthew 22:37-39

Pray against physical harm.

Father,

Praise You for the opportunity to be mothers and fathers. You craft each life with importance. Every one equally loved by You, our faithful and loving Father. We know that You have a purpose for each life You draft, and praise You that we get to be a part of that purpose.

Thank You for every day they hop into the car or off the school bus safely returned to us. The joys of parenthood are as abundant as the worries. We worry about our kids, God. School should be a safe place for them to learn, grow, and foster the friendships You designed us to crave. But the world is broken, and school isn't safe. There are lock-down drills that send teachers to dark corners to huddle with their students. Bless the teachers that fight back their own fear to risk their lives for our children.

Father, we confess our worry and our fear to You today. You tell us not to worry, but it is so hard not to cry when we think of what other parents have had to suffer on account of the tragedy we prepare to face everyday. Comfort their hearts in a special way.

Amen.

Pray that school fulfills its purpose – giving your child an education.

God,

There is a reason You tell us to have faith like that of a child. They are bursting with curiosity and full of love. Protect their innocence and preserve the spark in their eyes from the darkness of the world. Let them be little lights to their parents and teachers. Allow them to grow and have a fair opportunity to learn.

Amen.

Pray for your child's influences.

God,

May our children be kind on the playground and quiet in the hallways. Protect our children from gossip and bullying. May they know and hear Your voice louder than all the others.

Godly friends are important, and we pray today that You bless our children with those friends. May their friendships be innocent and light, and may they be filled with kindness, understanding, and compassionate consideration for one another.

God, it's hard to let go of our kids, and send them out into a world that is so unstable and so volatile. But You are bigger than all of our worries. You are bigger than our worst fears. Send Your Holy Spirit to quicken in our hearts as we seek You in Your Word and pray to You for comfort. Remind us that our children are Your children, and that You love them infinitely more than we do. You love us, and them, so much that You sent Your Son Jesus to die on a cross. In the most cruel way to die, the Savior of the World hung there for us. For all of us. My we always cling to the cross for our hope, and light the path for our children to, as well.

Amen.

Pray for teachers.

Dear God,

Grant our teachers an abundance of Your wisdom. Prepare their hearts to welcome and love our loved ones, and may we make sure to show them love and respect in return. Give them grace as they help students who aren't thriving, courage to say what needs to be said, tools and knowledge on how and when to speak love, and strength when they feel weak. When they feel unseen, remind them that no moment goes unnoticed. They are shaping the future in one million small - yet incredibly important - ways every day. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the gift of learning they share with our children. Bless them, Lord, and may they see even just a glimpse of how their faithfulness will forever impact generations to come.

Amen.

A teacher's prayer:

Help me to be a fine teacher, to keep peace in the classroom, peace between my students and myself, to be kind and gentle to each and every one of my students. Help me to be merciful to my students, to balance mercy and discipline in the right measure for each student, to give genuine praise as much as possible, to give constructive criticism in a manner that is palatable to my students. Help me to remain conscientious enough to keep my lessons always interesting, to recognize what motivates each of my students, to accept my students' limitations and not hold it against them. Help me not to judge my students too harshly, to be fair to all, to be a good role model, but most of all Lord help me to show your love to all of my students.

Amen.

5 more things to pray for your local school:

Thank God for learning. Thank God that he has provided everything we need “for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight” in his word (v 1-2). While human minds enjoy unravelling the puzzle of how the world around us works, God has not left us guessing on the question of why—he’s told us clearly through Scripture. That’s a big reason for thanksgiving!

Get future-proofed. Pray that students would learn “prudent behaviour” (v 3). Thank God for the way he uses education as an instrument of his common grace in restraining the effects of sin on society. Pray that this school would teach children “prudent behaviour”, and equip them to make choices that do good, not harm, to others as they grow up.

Love fairness. Pray that students would learn to do “what is right and just and fair” in God’s eyes (v 3). Sometimes it seems that our culture’s definition of right and wrong is drifting further and further from the Bible’s definition. But pray that children in this school would be taught that what God thinks is right is indeed right; that what God says is just is indeed just; and that what God says is fair is indeed fair.

Learn discretion. Ask God to teach “discretion to the young” (v 4). Kids can be very cruel with their words. So pray that these children would learn to control their tongues and speak words that are kind and patient, not offensive or mean.

Fear God. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge” (v 7). Pray that students and teachers would come to fear God—and realise that this is far more important than all the knowledge the world offers. Pray for Christian teachers you know, and anyone else who has an opportunity to witness to the gospel—ask that they too would fear God, not humans, and so speak faithfully and courageously of Jesus.