

Praying Your Child's Faith Takes Root

John and I are in the process of adopting a sibling group of four children from foster care, adding to our six. The other morning I woke up and my first thought was, "How is it possible to disciple **10 children** in godly living when they're all in various ages and stages?" My second thought was this: "Pray."

John and I will do our best to train our children in Bible reading, prayer and service to God, but all of this must start with a foundation of prayer. The prayers we pray today can build our children's foundation of faith in ways we can't understand.

When it comes to raising godly children we cannot neglect discipleship, and when it comes to discipleship we cannot neglect prayer.

Want to build your child's foundation of faith? Start with prayer.

Monday

Prayers for right standing with God

Lord, I pray that _____ will love righteousness, uprightness, and right standing with God. I pray _____ will hate wickedness. I pray that you will be _____ 's God. I pray that you will anoint _____ with the oil of gladness above those in this generation (see *Ps. 45:7, AMP*).

Tuesday

Prayers for deep roots and soul transformation

Lord, I pray that when _____ mourns You will grant consolation and joy. Give _____ a tiara/crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy, instead of mourning and the garment of expressive praise, instead of a heavy, burdened, and failing spirit—that _____ may be called an oak of righteousness: lofty, strong and magnificent, distinguished for uprightness, justice and right standing with God. May _____ be called the planting of the Lord, that You may be glorified (see *Is. 61:3, AMP*).

Wednesday

Prayers for delight in God's presence

Lord, make known to _____ the way of life. Enrapture _____ with and in Your presence. Diffuse _____'s soul with joy (see *Acts 21:28, AMP*).

Thursday

Prayers for seeking God first

Lord, I pray that _____ will seek, aim at, and strive after Your Kingdom first. I pray _____ will seek after Your righteousness—your way of doing and being right. I pray that all these things together will be given to _____ (see *Matt. 6:33, AMP*).

Friday

Prayers for reverent fear and worship of God

Lord, I pray there will be stability in _____'s times. I pray there will be an abundance of salvation, wisdom and knowledge. I pray that the reverent fear and worship of you, Lord, will be _____'s treasure. Lord, I pray their worship will be your treasure, too (see *Is. 33:6, AMP*).

Saturday

Prayers for honor of God with money and possessions

Lord, I pray _____ will honor You by giving you their money and the first part of all their crops. I pray, Lord, as _____ give they will have more grain and grapes than they will ever need (see *Prov. 3:9-10, CEV*).

Sunday

Prayers for sensitivity and obedience

Lord, I pray _____ will follow your command: Listen to and obey your voice, and you will be _____'s God and _____ will be your child. I pray that _____ will walk in the whole way that you command, that all may be well with _____ (see *Jer. 7:23, AMP*).

Prayer for Parents:

Dear Lord, please help me in being diligent to disciple my children. I want them to know You, know Your Word and to follow after you all of their lives. Forgive me for wasting time on the meaningless pursuits of this world. Help me to guide my children toward You, and strengthen me to begin with a foundation of prayer.

Tricia Goyer has written more than 35 books, including both novels that delight and entertain readers and nonfiction titles that offer encouragement and hope. She has also published more than 500 articles in national publications such as *Guideposts*, *Thriving Family*, *Proverbs 31* and *HomeLife Magazine*.