

A Student's Prayer

Dear God,
Help me remember that you're always by my side,
at school and all day long.
Help me be the best student I can be,
using all the gifts and talents you've given me.
Help me study well and often
– especially when I don't feel like studying at all!
Help me finish all my homework – on time.
Help me listen to my teachers and coaches.
Help me play fair and play safely.
Help me be honest when I'm tempted to cheat.
Help me always tell the truth.
Help me be kind to everyone at school
and to treat others as I'd want them to treat me.
Help me make good friends
and help me be a good friend to others.
Help me see how I can help others
and to ask for help when I need it myself.
Help me love and respect, trust and appreciate my parents
- and be honest with them.
Help me remember that you're with me always, Lord,
and that you'll never leave my side.
Amen.

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A Parent's Prayer for Students

Dear Lord,
As my children leave for school,
I pray you keep them in your care.
Send your Spirit to open their minds
to all that's true and beautiful and good.
Help them see the gifts and talents
you have given them
and teach them to use them well.
Help them to grow in knowledge and wisdom.
Help them to be kind to others
and lead others to be kind to them.
Give their teachers patience and understanding
and help them teach what's just and true.
Send your angels to guide and guard my children
and to keep them from all harm.
Open their young hearts to your presence
and enfold them in your peace and protection.
Hold them in the palm of your hand, Lord,

and at day's end, bring them safely home.
Amen.

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A Teacher's Prayer

Dear God,

A new school year is about to begin
and my classroom door will soon open
to the students you've assigned to my care...

Open my mind and heart to each of them
and especially to the ones
who will challenge me the most...

Help me challenge my students, all of them,
to study, to learn, to grow in knowledge
and even a little wisdom...

Help me remember, Lord,
how young my students are:

give me patience to help them grow up
and insight to know the help they need...

Help me understand that sometimes
my students may not understand me:
help me be clear in all I say and do...

My students don't know the burdens and worries
my heart brings to the classroom, Lord,
so help me remember

how anxious and how heavy my students' hearts may be...

Keep me from favoring any particular students, Lord,
except for those who need my help the most...

Let my choices and decisions in the classroom
be fair and just, honest and true...

Send your Spirit to fill me with gifts
of knowledge and understanding, counsel and wisdom...

Lord, open my mind and heart to my students' parents,
especially those who'll challenge me the most...

Help me challenge parents to challenge their children
to study, to learn and to grow...

Teach me to teach as you would, Lord:

with understanding when I need to be firm,

with gentleness in all things and with patience 'til the last bell rings...

Amen.

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