

Family Prayer Guide



What is prayer?

Prayer is how we communicate with God. We can have a conversation with Him. Prayer helps us grow in our relationship with God and get His direction for our lives. Prayer reminds us who we are as people, how great our God is, and how much we need Him.

Scripture Reference: Jeremiah 29:12

Why do we pray?

God is our loving Father and He wants to hear from us. God is good and cares for us. He will help us when we are hurting or sick, happy or sad, or even when we are in trouble. God will give us wisdom, strength, and understanding if we ask Him. God is willing to give us many good things as long as it follows what He wants for us.

Scripture Reference: 1 John 5:14

When do we pray?

Anytime, anywhere. God is always with us so we can talk to him whenever and wherever. We can pray in the morning, before we eat, before bed time, when we see someone in need, sick or hurting, or even because we are just happy and want to thank God for all He has done.

Scripture Reference: Psalm 145:18

How do we pray?

Jesus taught us! Matthew 6:9-13 gives us a model of prayer by Jesus.

“Our Father in heaven,

Talk with God. He is our loving Father.

Hallowed be Your name.

Worship His name.

***Your Kingdom come. Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.***

Pray for what He wants first.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Ask God for what you want and need, and trust that He will provide for you.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Make sure your heart is right with God and with people.

***And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.***

Replace any lie that the enemy has told you with the truth of God’s word.

***For Yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.”***

God is all powerful and can do anything. Believe it.

Phases and Stages *Developing prayer by age*

0-2 Years

The Hearing Stage: *I am listening (so keep talking).*

- Pray before meals and at bed time each day so they can hear it.
- Tell them that prayer is a special time to talk with God.
- Use songs and poems to help memorize prayers.

3-5 Years

The Watching Stage: *I want to do what you are doing.*

- Pray together each day in the mornings, afternoons, and at night.
- Provide opportunities for them to see you pray on your own and pray over others.
- Encourage your child to say simple prayers on their own.
- Ask if they have anything they need to pray for.

K-3 Grade

The Learning Stage: *Show me how so I can do it.*

- Introduce intercessory prayer and have your child pray for others.
- Encourage your child to pray on their own (when they are happy or sad, when they are thankful, when they are in need) to help develop habits of constantly walking with God through prayer.
- Teach your child to pray immediately as they have or see a need.

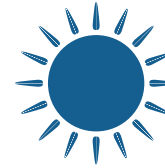
4-5 Grade

The Exploring Stage: *Let me try this on my own.*

- Help your child start a prayer journal to record their personal moments of speaking with God. Look back and discuss how God has answered those prayers.
- Provide opportunities for your child to take initiative and lead family prayer time.
- Encourage your child to use memorized scripture as they pray.

Plan out your day and ways to pray

morning



- Rise and shine. Start off the day by speaking with God.
- Time for breakfast! Pray when you eat your morning meal together.

evening



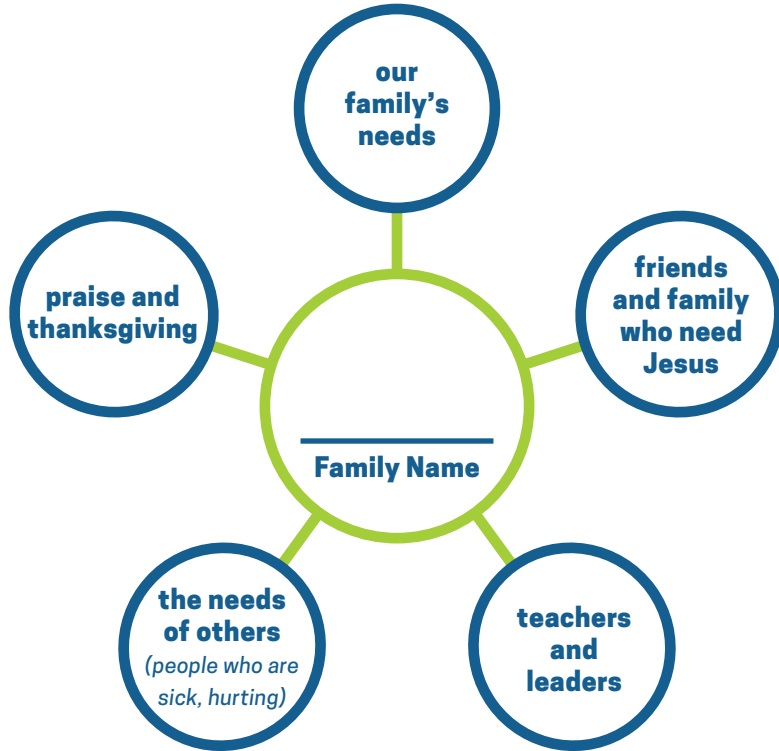
- Everyone is home and it's time for dinner. Pray together before you eat.
- God has given us a great day. Pray before you fall asleep.

all the time



- In the car. Pray while you are on your way!
- Immediately when a need arises for yourself or others.
- When you read your Bible and have quiet time with Jesus.

Prayer Map – Pray together as a family



Pray for Your Church

Pray for the mission of Biltmore Church.

Biltmore Church exists to:

glorify God by making disciples that reach up through worship, reach in through community, and reach out through service.

Reflect – Write it down

Create a family prayer journal to document your prayer time. Look back often to reflect on all God has done.

Scripture we have memorized:

How has consistent prayer changed your family?

What's one thing your kids prayed for that surprised you?

How has God answered your prayers?



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