

Praying for your kids is as easy as A, B, C...

God's Word commands us to "pray continuously" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). As you dedicate your child unto the Lord, here are some virtues to lift up in prayer on your child's behalf.

A – Abound "This is our prayer: That our child's love may *abound* more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that s/he may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ-to the glory and praise of God" (Philippians 1:10).

B – Be made new "We pray that our child would *be made new* in the attitude of his/her mind and put on the new self-created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4:23, 29).

C – Content "My prayer, Father, is that our child would learn to be *content* in every situation" (Philippians 4:12).

D – Delight in and Dwell with the Lord "Heavenly Father, please make your statues a *delight* to our child, that they would counsel him/her. May goodness and love follow him/her all the days of his/her life, and may s/he *dwell* in the house of the Lord forever" (Psalm 119:24; Psalm 23:6).

E – Equip "Lord, please *equip* our child with everything good so that s/he may do your will, and work in him/her what is pleasing to you, through Jesus Christ" (Hebrews 13:21).

F – Faith "May the life that our child lives be lived by *faith* in your Son, continually working to add to his/her *faith* goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; to perseverance, godliness; to godliness, brotherly kindness; to brotherly kindness, love " (Gal. 2:20, 2 Peter 1:5-7).

G – Godly, Grace "May our child live a holy and *godly* life, strong in the *grace* that is in Christ Jesus" (2 Peter 3:11, 2 Timothy 2:1).

H – Hope "Father, teach our child to hold unswervingly to the *hope* that we profess knowing that you, who promised it, is faithful" (Hebrews 10:23).

I – Integrity "I pray that our child will be a person of *integrity* who fears you, Lord, more than most people do" (Nehemiah 7:2).

J – Joyful "May our child rejoice in you, Lord, and be *joyful* in you as his/her God and Savior" (Habakkuk 3:18).

K – Kind "I pray that our child would always try to be *kind* to others and bear the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, *kindness*, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (1 Th5:15; Gal. 5:22-23).

L – Love "Lord God, may our child *love* You with all his/her heart, soul, and mind. Help our child to pass that *love* onto others understanding that love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8).

M – Mature "Mature our child, Father, so that s/he will be complete, not lacking anything" (James 1:4).

N – Noble "I pray that our child will be a *noble* person who makes *noble* plans and stands by *noble* deeds" (Is. 32:8).

O – Obey "Lord, teach our child to *obey* your commands as Jesus obeyed, so that s/he will remain in your love. And help him/her to *obey* his/her parents because it is right" (Jn 15:10, Eph. 6:1).

P – Peaceable, Pure, Prayerful "Father, help our child to be a *peacemaker* who sows in *peace*; someone who will not share in the sins of others, but keep him/herself *pure*; a child of yours who will always *pray* and

never give up (James 3:18, 1 Timothy 5:22, Luke 18:1).

Q – Quiet “I pray that our child will live a peaceful and *quiet* life in all godliness and holiness” (1 Timothy 2:2).

R – Respect “I pray that our child will show proper *respect* to everyone: Love believers, fear you, and honor those in authority over him/her” (1 Peter 2:17).

S – Saved, Sanctified, Self-Controlled “Lord, may our child turn to you and be *saved* knowing that you are God and there is no other; *sanctify* him/her through and through; teach him/her to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live a *self-controlled*, upright and godly life” (Isaiah 45:22, 1 Th. 5:3, Titus 2:12).

T – Truthful, Temperate “Teach our child to be *truthful and temperate* so that you will delight in him/her” (1 Timothy 2:3-4).

U – Understanding and Upright “Lord, help our child to gain *understanding* from your precepts and hate every wrong path. Help him/her to be one who loves what is good, be self-controlled, *upright*, holy and disciplined” (Titus 1:8).

V – Victorious, Virtuous “I pray that our child will be your child and share in your *victory*. Help him/her to be *virtuous* by clothing him/herself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; Bearing with others and forgiving grievances as the Lord forgives him/her; and putting on love (Colossians 3:12-14).

W – Wise, Willing, Worthy “Guide our child to walk with the *wise* and grow *wise*, to desire to do your *will*, and to walk *worthy* of the calling s/he has received” (Pro 13:20, Ps 40:8, Eph 4:1).

X – eXcel “I pray that our child would *eXcel* in everything; in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness, in love for others, and in giving grace” (2 Cor. 8:7).

Y – Youth “Lord, strengthen our child to not let anyone look down upon him/her because

s/he is *young*, but make him/her an example for believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity” (1 Tim. 4:12).

Z – Zeal “Teach our child, Father, to never lack *zeal* and keep with spiritual fervor, serving the Lord” (Rom 12:11).

Our children are a reflection of ourselves. So, it is fitting to pray for yourselves while you are praying for your child. Here are some ideas:

Dt. 6:5-9 “Father, place your commands on our hearts that we may impress them upon our children, talk about them while we walk along the road and while we sit at home, while we are awake and while we lay down. We want to tie them as symbols upon our wrists and bind them to our foreheads, paint them on the doorframes of our homes and on our gates.”

Dt. 32:46, 30:19b-20 “Lord, show us as parents how to take to heart all that your Word commands, that we would choose life so we and our children will live, may we love you, listen to your voice and hold fast to you because you are our life!”

Judges 13:8 “O Lord, we beg you, teach us how to bring up this child who is born to us.”

Proverbs 14:26 “Teach us to have a healthy fear of you, Lord, because it is a secure fortress, and it will be a refuge for our children.”

Proverbs 20:7 “Heavenly Father, make us righteous parents who lead blameless lives, so that our children may be blessed after us.”

Proverbs 31:26 “As a mother, bless the words of my mouth that I may speak with wisdom and have faithful instruction on my lips.”

Ephesians 6:4 “As a father, teach me not to provoke our children to wrath, but to bring them up in your training and instruction, Lord.”