

When praying with children focus on the heart

There is no time like now to call on God. Before you begin to pray with your child, take some time to ask God for His grace. You will discover wisdom from above that will guide you throughout the many seasons parenting. You are not on your own. God's got you—as long as you seek Him. Your child will follow suit if you stay the spiritual course. Your main objective is not to be clever or eloquent. The mere act of praying together is helping your child to learn how to rely on God. Use this time to help them understand their innocence and sincerity, combined with faith, have God's ear. In other words, God listens to hearts not words.

Shelter in the Day of Trouble

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

...For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

I believe that I shall see
the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Be with Me, Lord

O Lord, I am torn up with grief. I know you are there, but I cannot see past my sorrow and tears. Be with me, Lord... guide me through these dark days and bring your light to my life, so that I may see your goodness, even in my sadness.

Your Joy Will Be Their Strength

Father, you're close to people whose hearts are breaking, those who are discouraged and have given up hope. May You who see their troubles and grief respond when they cry out. When they're hurting, help them find their joy in You, for ...Your joy will be their strength. Help them to trust You as their God of hope. Fill them with Your joy, peace, and hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, at the moment nothing seems to be able to help the loss I feel.
My heart is broken and my spirit mourns.
All I know is that Your grace is sufficient.
This day, this hour
Moment by moment
I choose to lean on You,
For when I am at my weakest Your strength is strongest.
I pour out my grief to You
And praise You that on one glorious day
When all suffering is extinguished and love has conquered
We shall walk together again.

Father, we ask You to send Your peace to those persons who are mourning. Continue to surround them with family, friends and loved ones who will offer words of comfort. Give them sweet and restful sleep. Father, remove the spirit of heaviness, and give them garments of praise. In due time, bless their lives to overflow with laughter and joy again. As they take refuge in You, please help them to put their trust in You. Holy Spirit, we ask that You settle the hearts and minds of those who are feeling any guilt, resentment, bitterness, or anger. Help them not to look back but to press forward.