

Here is a simple guide to help your family pray together.



Pray for **FAMILY MEMBERS.**



Pray for your **NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS.**



Pray for **OUR CHURCH.**



Pray for **OUR MISSIONARIES.**



Pray for **PEOPLE WE KNOW WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS.**



Pray for **OUR GOVERNMENT AND LEADERS.**



Pray for **OTHER CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD**—especially those who are treated badly because they are followers of Jesus.

For questions, contact:

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Church and Family Partnering Together



Today's Big Idea

The Fruit of the Spirit
Galatians 5:16–26



The Main Point

The Holy Spirit changes the way we think and act to be more like Jesus.



What Did We Learn?

- ▶ Paul wrote a letter to believers living in Galatia.
- ▶ Paul wanted the Galatians to know the changes following Jesus would produce in their lives.
- ▶ The Holy Spirit changes the way we think and act to be more like Jesus.

TODAY'S CHRIST CONNECTION

When we trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit begins to change us. Paul told the believers in the Galatian church how to recognize that God is working in someone's life. People who are saved by Jesus become more like Him, and the Holy Spirit gives them power to say no to sin and to live in a way that pleases God.



LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

Open your Bible to Ephesians 6:10–19 and read together as a family about the armor of God. Or read the children’s version of the passage below.

“Be strong! God is strong, and He will give you strength.” Paul wrote these words in a letter to the church at Ephesus. Paul was in prison in Rome, and he knew from experience that the Christian life was not an easy life. In fact, the Christian life is like a battle. The battle is against evil.

Paul told believers how to fight. “Put on the full armor of God,” he said. “It will help you stand up against the Devil, who is trying to trick you.”

Evil is strong, but God is stronger. These are the pieces of God’s armor:

First, truth is like a belt around our waist. We know what is true because God has told us about Himself in His Word.

Second, righteousness is like armor on our chest. God gives us righteousness when we trust in Jesus.

Third, Paul said, “Be ready with the gospel—like sandals on your feet.” We must always be ready to tell others the gospel.

Fourth, faith is like a shield. We should take it with us wherever we go to help protect ourselves from the evil one’s attacks. This evil one—the Devil—wants us to doubt God or believe what is not true. God gives us faith to help us trust in Him and obey Him.

Finally, Paul said, “Salvation is like your helmet, and God’s Word is like your sword.” A helmet protects your head. We should remember that God has saved us. A sword helps us fight off enemies. God’s Word, the Bible, is a strong sword! The Bible tells us what is true and the Holy Spirit helps us do what it says.

When we use this armor, we must remember to pray. God will show us how to be ready and how to live for Him.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- ▶ Why do you think the armor of God includes a sword?
- ▶ What does it mean to wear the armor of God?
- ▶ Can we choose not to wear the armor of God?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Take your family to a history museum. Seek out exhibits about armor. Talk to your kids about the kinds of threats God’s armor protects us from.
- ▶ Use wire coat hangers and paper maché to make play swords.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Paul told believers to be ready to fight a spiritual battle each and every day. People and powers who are against God will be against us too. But Jesus died and rose from the dead. He had victory over evil. We can fight the battle against evil, knowing Jesus already won the war.

BIBLE READING THROUGH THE WEEK

Take time this week to read the Bible together as a family. Breakfast, dinner, or bedtime—you choose when and where.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Ephesians 6:10–11	Ephesians 6:12–13	Ephesians 6:14–15	Ephesians 6:16–17	Ephesians 6:18–19

As you read, ask these questions:

- ▶ What is God teaching us?
- ▶ What does this show us about who God is?
- ▶ What do we need to ask God’s help for to change?
- ▶ How would you share this with a friend?

UNIT MEMORY VERSE

If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here! —2 Corinthians 5:17