

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

Paul's Letter to Philemon
Philemon 8–22



The Main Point

Paul told Philemon to forgive his servant as a Christian brother.



What Did We Learn?

- ▶ Onesimus was a servant for Philemon.
- ▶ Onesimus ran away and met Paul.
- ▶ Paul led Onesimus to Jesus.
- ▶ Paul told Philemon to forgive his servant as a Christian brother.

TODAY'S CHRIST CONNECTION

Paul offered to pay Onesimus's debt to make peace between him and Philemon. In this way, Paul acted like Jesus, who makes peace between God and man. Jesus took the punishment we deserve for our sin. He paid our debt so that we can be forgiven and welcomed by God.



LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

Open your Bible to 1 Thessalonians 4:13–5:11 and read together as a family about when Paul gave hope. Or read the children's version of the passage below.

Paul traveled to the city of Thessalonica. Paul told the people the Good News about Jesus, and many people believed in Jesus. Paul started the church in Thessalonica, but some people did not like Paul or his teachings and they forced him out of the city.

Paul worried about the people in Thessalonica. So Paul sent his friend Timothy to see how they were doing. Timothy brought back good news. Even though the Thessalonians faced suffering for their faith, they did not give up. Paul wrote a letter to encourage the believers. He told them that Jesus will return someday. On that day, Paul said, believers will be freed from their sufferings! This message gave them great hope.

Paul wrote to the believers at the church in Thessalonica to help them know what is true and to teach them what happened to friends who had died.

No one knows when Jesus will come again. So be ready. Whether we are alive or dead when Jesus returns, He will bring us all home with Him forever. So continue to encourage each other because we have this future hope.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- ▶ What does it mean to have hope in something?
- ▶ Do you ever hope in things that are not certain?
- ▶ How can we know Jesus will return?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Make a list of times God made promises. Point out promises God has already kept and those we await.

CHRIST CONNECTION

The prophets in the Old Testament told about the Day of the Lord, a day when God would come to judge the world and save His people. Paul said that in the future, on the Day of the Lord, Jesus will return for His people and judge the wicked. Believers live with hope, knowing that Jesus will come again.

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
1 Thessalonians 4:13–15	1 Thessalonians 4:16–18	1 Thessalonians 5:1–3	1 Thessalonians 5:4–7	1 Thessalonians 5:8–11

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

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. — John 14:3