

## Kids Prayer Box

The Lord calls us to, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it” Proverbs 22:6. Upon Baptism, parents and Godparents promise to teach the child the Lord’s Prayer, Ten Commandment, the Creeds and His Word. This Prayer box is designed to help parents share in meaningful, thoughtful prayer time with their child. Utilizing multiple senses, the Kids Prayer Box engages children fully in praying for people and events that are important to them and their family.

### Directions

Beginning the journey of family prayer time unites a family. The directions below give an overview of the component of the Prayer Box, directions to establish your prayer box and prayer time, and how to keep the prayer box current and relevant for your family.

The Prayer Box consists of the following dividers:

Daily Prayer Requests

Each Day of the Week

Answered Prayer

Blank Prayer Cards

### As a family, take time to establish you prayer box.

1) Find, print or draw pictures of people who are important to your family. Be creative and have fun with this. Consider class picture from field trips as a reminder to pray for the teacher and classmates. Silly pictures from birthday parties serve as a reminder to pray for specific friends. Sports team photos offer a reminder to pray for the coach and teammates. If you do not have a picture and can’t take one soon, then break out the markers and draw a picture on the front of a prayer request card from the back of the box.

2) Then decide if it is someone that you should pray for daily or weekly. Write on the back of the card any special request and the date you began praying for this person. Immediate family members may have a prayer card for each day of the week, so that you are reminded to pray for different aspects life. For example a picture of dad on Sunday to pray for his spiritual life, Monday a picture to pray for his work life, Tuesday a picture to pray for his volunteer involvement at church, etc. This helps to keep daily prayers for significant people fresh and innovative.

3) Then drop the picture, or prayer card in the appropriate divider. Use the back of the picture/prayer card to track progress toward the prayer requests and date of answers. When a request is fully answered, move the card/picture to the Answered section. This will provide encouragement when prayer time seems stale or dry.

### As a family, establish your prayer time.

Set a time for you and your child to pray together daily. For some families an evening prayer time is best, others find starting the day in prayer sets the tone for the day. The time of day is not important. It is important to find a time that you can stick to every day.

As you begin your prayer time, start with praising God for who He is and how blessed we are by Him. Then pray for the daily requests, and then pray for the requests in that day's section. Depending on the age of the child, you can pray, he can pray, you can go back and forth. You'll find a synchronicity that works for you. Close your prayer time with thanks for the day ahead or the day completed and rest ahead. Consider closing the prayer time with the Lord's Prayer together.

### **Updating the Prayer Box.**

Weekly updating the prayer box can be especially meaningful as you take time to see how God is answering your prayers. Sundays make a great day to re-evaluate your daily requests to see if there are answers or progress. When a request is answered, say a prayer of thanks and move the card to the "Answered" section of the box.

You can also spend time on Sundays adding prayer cards, perhaps from the church prayer requests or from events that happened during the week. Phones with cameras make it easy to take a picture of friends or situations that you want to remember in prayer. Sundays can be used to print the pictures from the week, add prayer requests to the back and place in the box.

### **Continue on the Journey.**

If you find times where you have not been praying together or find prayer stale. Pray through the "Answered" section of the prayer box. You will be encouraged to see how God is working in our lives.

If you have taken a break from using the prayer box, do not try to catch up on the missed days. Instead start with this day's prayer requests. Then you will be more likely to restart your prayer time.

My prayer for you and your family is that you will find great joy in praying together as well as a depth of relationship with God and one another can only be fostered through prayer. God promises to be with us when two or three or gathered in His name. So may this prayer box foster times when you sense His closeness in prayer.