

Prayer Pieces

There aren't any rules for praying, but there are certain things that your prayers should include:

- 1. Some words that show God how much you love and respect him. Let him know that you believe he really is the one and only God and that you will try to obey him.
- 2. Confess to your heavenly Father the mistakes you've made that have hurt others or disappointed him or harmed yourself.
- 3. Spend some time sharing with God your needs or the needs of others. This is called "supplication."
- 4. Remind God that you belong to him and that you want to follow his will. Ask him to reveal his will to you clearly.

Here's an easy way to remember the "pieces of prayer":

- ${f P}-{f P}$ Praise God. Thank him for his goodness and all the blessings he gives you.
- Report your sins. Request God's forgiveness if you have hurt someone or disappointed him.
- A- Ask for your needs and the needs of others.
- Υ Yield. Give your prayers to your heavenly Father and trust him to listen to you and answer your prayers.

Remember the pieces of prayer:

P—Praise

R—Report

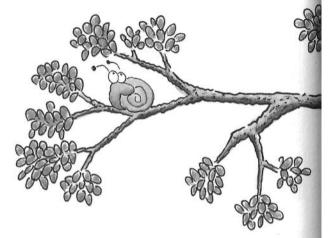
A—Ask

Y—Yield

A Prayer to Help Me Grow Close to God

"The Lord is close to everyone who prays to him, to all who truly pray to him."

PSALM 145:18

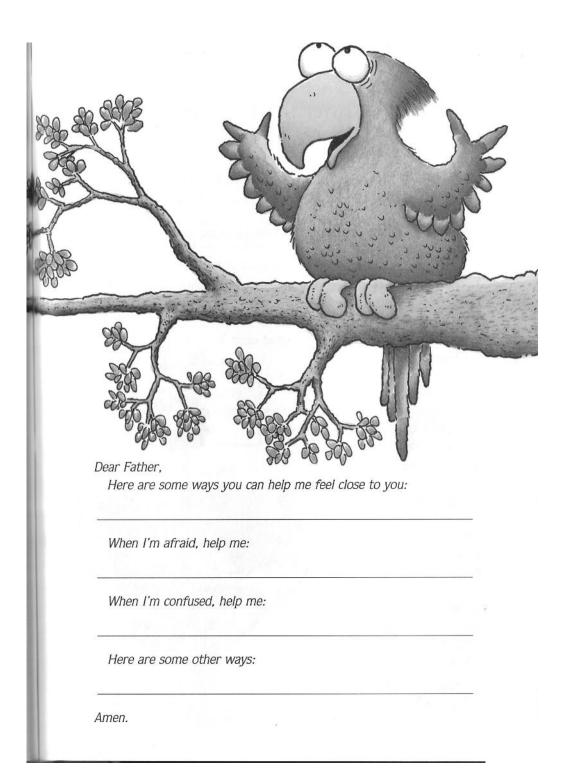


I know God has a plan for me. I want to live a life that pleases him. But how will I know what to do? I'll trust God to help me understand him better as he and I talk often in prayer.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Being close to you is important to me. I want to know you better and to understand your will in my life.

Father, I'm going to be quiet for a few minutes. Instead of talking, I'll just listen awhile. Perhaps you'll speak to my heart. Amen.



A Prayer for God to Be with Me

"Remain in me and follow my teachings. If you do this, then you can ask for anything you want, and it will be given to you." JOHN 15:7

My life is like a path. Up a hill, down into the valley, through the dark woods, and out into the sunshine. On my journey, there are many roads to choose. Sometimes, I'm not sure which path to take, but God is there to guide me. If I listen, I will take the right path.

Dear Father,

Thank you for loving me enough to walk along with me through life.

Please guide me and show me the way to go. Amen. Talk to God about the path of your life, about growing up and the decisions you'll make. Tell him about your dreams and ask him to guide you every step of the way.

Dear God,

You are my God and I praise you for loving me. Thank you for:

Please forgive me for:

I know you care about what happens in my life. Help me know your will about:

Amen.

A Prayer When I'm Lonely

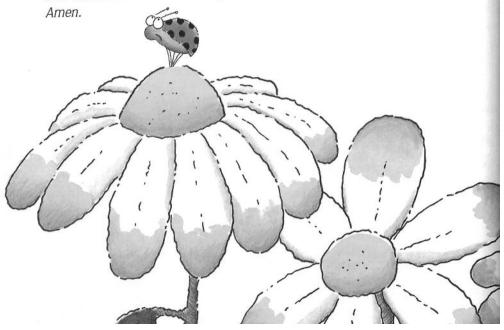
"Turn to me and be kind to me. I am lonely and hurting." PSALM 25:16

Sometimes I feel invisible, because it seems that no one notices me. Doesn't anyone want to be my friend? It's really tough to keep a strong attitude when I feel so lonely. Maybe it will help to spend some time in prayer.

Dear Father,

Your Bible tells me that you're always listening. Knowing that you care makes me feel better. I'm sure glad you're here to talk to. Father, can you help me? This is a lonely time for me because _____

Thank you for reminding me that I'm special to you because you made me. What a wonderful Father you are!



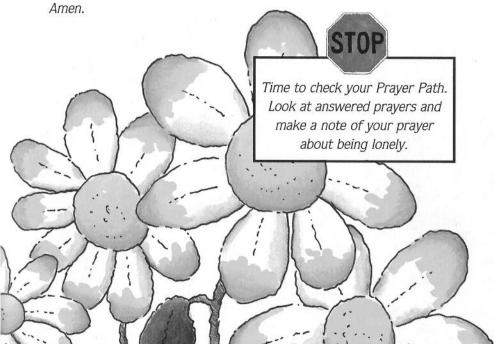
Dear God,

Thank you for listening to my prayer. I'm especially glad you're listening, because today I'm feeling lonely. Here's what it feels like:

This is what happened to make me feel this way:

I would like to change this feeling, because:

Father, please help me remember that you are with me, even on days like this.



A Prayer When I'm Confused

"Please make me wise and teach me the difference between right and wrong." 1 KINGS 3:9, CEV

Should I play in the band or do sports? Should I change my haircut? Should I do my homework or watch TV? Should I go here, or should I go there? Should I spend time with this friend or that friend? My

head is spinning with all these choices. I feel mixed up and confused. Help!

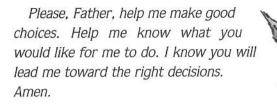
Dear Heavenly Father,

I sure need you today. You are great and strong and smart, and I'm just a kid who's very confused. Sometimes it seems I should make a certain choice. Then I'm not sure.

Help me know what to do, Father. Thanks! Amen.

Dear Heavenly Father,

I'm so mixed up. Some people tell me one thing, and others tell me just the opposite. I want to do the right thing. I sure need your help. Here is what I'm trying to figure out:





In the Prayer Path at the back of the book, write about a choice you have to make.

A Prayer for Our Leaders

"You should pray for kings and for all who have authority. Pray for the leaders so that we can have quiet and peaceful lives—lives full of worship and respect for God."

1 Тімотну 2:2

In our world, there are kings, queens, presidents, governors, princes, princesses, dictators, and leaders of all sorts. There are good ones, bad ones, weak ones, and strong ones. Some leaders believe in God and some don't. Some countries, like ours, are blessed with freedom. Others are troubled by wars. The Bible tells me to pray for the world's leaders, and I can see that they need my prayers.

Dear Father,

You are so good—you've given us a great country in which to live. Some countries are in trouble. There is fighting going on, and people are getting hurt. Father, I care about these problems, and I know you do, too.

Please, Father, listen to my prayer for the world's leaders. Turn their hearts to you. Make them try to stop fighting and arguing.

Help them love their neighbors and do good to others. Help them remember the Golden Rule.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Dear God,

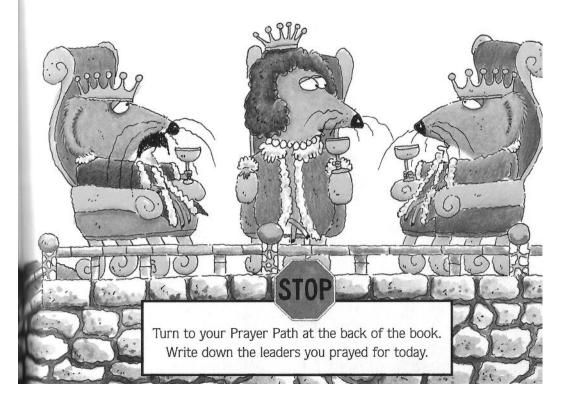
I'm praying for all the leaders in the world today, especially in countries where there is fighting and people are hungry.

I want to pray for the leaders of our country. Here are some concerns I have about our country:



Help our leaders to:

Amen.



A Prayer for Forgiveness

"I prayed to the Lord my God. I told him about all of my sins."

DANIEL 9:4

I knew it was wrong, but I did it anyway. I did something I'm not proud of doing. In fact, I'm sure that it didn't please God. I should pray about this right away!

Dear Heavenly Father,

You are my God and I love you. I want to do the things that make you happy. But sometimes I mess up. I'm very sorry, Father. Will you please forgive me?

I have something I want to confess to you:

Thank you for listening to me. Amen. Dear God,

Here are some other things I want to tell you. I'm so sorry that I:

I know that I do things that aren't right sometimes. Father, please help me stop doing these things:

