



FOR GOD'S *children*

Use these prayers in your own personal time with the Lord. Keep it in your Bible for those times of overwhelming grief as you think about the weight so many children carry. As you pray, read the passages of Scripture and ask our Father to help you sit in this suffering with His children.

FOR GOD'S

Children

For the ones who've never known how it feels to be safe at home, whose trust has been shattered, who've been hurt by those whose love they crave. "For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in."

PSALM 27:10 (ESV)

The ones whose perception of marriage and family has been colored by absent parents, addiction and domestic abuse. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

PSALM 32:8 (ESV)

For children who've been neglected, who've never felt special, never had help on their homework or a healthy meal on the table, who've gotten themselves and their siblings up and off to school or who've done all they can simply to survive each day. "The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing."

ZEPHANIAH 3:17 (ESV)

The children who have witnessed unthinkable acts of violence, whether in one life-altering moment or in a heartbreaking pattern in their homes and communities. "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

PSALM 147:3 (ESV)

The ones who have suffered tragic loss of a loved one by suicide or homicide, where no explanation or passage of time will ever truly suffice. "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

PSALM 34:18 (ESV)

For the children who are now adults who still shoulder the burden of adverse childhood experiences each day, who fight off guilt and trauma and have to summon the self-worth to fight for a better life every day. "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

PSALM 139:14 (ESV)

Deliver them into the safe arms of your church, to loving, caring adults who will teach them about your love, so they'll trust in you forever. Amen.