



# Some Family Prayer Ideas

## Praise Collage

Find pictures in magazines or online and paste them together in a collage as a visual reminder of all you have to thank God for. You could also draw pictures or make word lists of your thanksgiving.

Have each family member explain the pictures on their collage and what they are thankful for. Pray together thanking God for all these gifts.

Post the collages in your kitchen as a reminder on hard days of what you can be grateful for.

## Prayer for the World

If you have a globe, you could use this. Otherwise, you might like to look at a picture of the globe on the internet, a world map, or even use Google Earth to be more interactive.

'O Lord, our Lord, your greatness is seen in all the world' Psalm 8:1

The world was made by God, and it is beautiful. At one time it was perfect, but things have gone wrong and the world is not the great place it once was. This was not how God meant it to be. At the moment, the world is particularly struggling with the virus COVID-19.

- Look at the world and try to find places you have been to, places you have heard about, and places you would like to visit.
- Imagine the pain God feels when he sees his perfect world going wrong, and his children hurting with the illness.
- Think about children in other parts of the world. Hold or hug the world silently for a short while, thinking of all of the children in the world, and particularly those who are suffering.

## Lego (or Duplo) prayers

You will need: One Lego or Duplo brick per person

### **Hold your brick.**

Pray for yourself. Thank God for the things he has given you. Ask Him to bless you and to help you to bless others.

### **Count the bumps on your brick.**

For each bump on your brick, pray for a different country – you might like to choose countries that are struggling most with the virus.

### **Find someone who has a different colour brick to you.**

Thank God for making each person special. Thank him for the things that are different but special about other people. Pray that we will learn how to celebrate and understand people who are different to us.

### **Find someone with the same number of bumps on their brick as you.**

Thank God for families and friends and all who care for us. Pray that He will help us to be friends to those who are lonely.

### **Swap your brick with someone.**

Thank God for the person you swapped with and ask God to bless them this week.

### **Put all of the bricks together and build a structure or tower with them.**

Thank God for the church and the communities we live in. Pray that He will help us to include others and to help people know that they are loved and valued.



## Be Generous to Others

You could use your time to follow the 40 acts of generosity as a family. Some of these might not be appropriate with the new government guidelines, but pick three or four from the list to do. You can find the list here:

<https://bit.ly/2UkNTQa>

## Paint a Prayer

Paint whatever you'd like to pray to God for. It could be thanking, saying sorry, asking for something, or a picture of someone who needs help.

You could also make a handprint for each person in your family leave it to dry, and then write the gifts that God has given each person on their handprint. (If you don't have paint, you could draw round each hand.)

## Prayer Paper Chain

Decorate your house with prayers! Give everyone a few strips of coloured paper, and write a one-line prayer on them. Fasten them all together to make a long chain. You could add to this over several days if you wanted to.

## Hold a Mini Church Service

You could do a devotional time as a family. Start by choosing a favourite worship song to listen to or sing together. Then choose a bible reading – you could pick one from Lent, or one about Jesus healing the sick. Either would be appropriate for our current situation! Then discuss the story a little. What does it mean? Why is it important? What does it tell us about God, about ourselves, or about our relationship with God? How should we live our lives based on what we've learnt from this story? Pray the Lord's prayer together to finish.

## Skittles Prayers

As a Sunday treat, you might like to incorporate sweets into your prayer time. Open the packet of sweets and take it in turns to pick one. (You could do this with your eyes open or closed to make it trickier.)

When you have your sweet, before you eat it, say a prayer asking God to help or do something for someone or something in that category (see below).

Eat your sweet as the next person takes theirs.

Red: family                      Purple: friends                      Green: the environment/animals

Yellow: the world                      Orange: school/work

## Playing Card Prayers

Take a pack of cards and lay them face down. Take it in turns to take a card off the top of the pile and pray using these guidelines:

For a red number card say a 'thank you' prayer

For a black number card say a 'sorry' or 'please' prayer

For a king card, think of a word to describe God and how great He is.

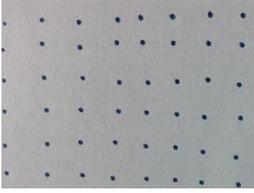
For a queen card pray for someone who is female.

For a jack card, pray for someone who is male.

## Boxes Prayer Game

Children love this game, so here's a twist that adds prayer to the mix. You will need: A piece of paper, pens or pencils (each player should have a different colour)

Draw some dots in lines and columns on the paper.



Each player takes it in turns to draw a line between two of the dots. Eventually, you will be able to close boxes.

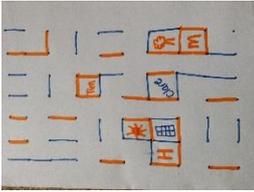
Whoever draws the line that closes the box can write or draw inside the box.

Someone's name- ask God to bless them and help them

Something that you want to thank God for

Something you would like to ask God for

A big letter C – to pray specifically for the virus.



Take time to say the prayer out loud or in your head, then carry on!

The winner is the player who has filled the most boxes by the end of the game.