

# Teachers' Prayer Companion



Prayer Guides for  
Education Teams

Gretchen Huesmann

# Table of Contents

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The story behind this packet.....	3
Introductory Bible Study.....	4
Tips for Prayer Time.....	6
The PRAYER SHEETS.....	7
Preparing for the School Year.....	8
Curriculum Planning.....	9
Meeting New Students.....	10
Families Preparing for the School Year.....	11
Returning Students.....	12
Staff.....	13
Teachers.....	14
Student Relationships.....	15
Pastors/Youth Leaders/Worship Leaders.....	16
Safety.....	17
Veterans Day.....	18
Families of Faith.....	19
Reformation.....	20
Parent Teacher Conferences.....	21
Parents/Grandparents/Guardians.....	22
Thanksgiving.....	23
Difficult Students.....	24
Advent.....	25
Christmas Program.....	26
Christmas Break.....	27
New Year.....	28
Families/Individuals Who May Not Know You.....	29
Staff (B).....	30
School Celebration Week.....	31
Teachers (B).....	32
Re-Enrollment.....	33

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Valentine’s Day ..... 34  
Presidents’ Day ..... 35  
Grandparents/Family Day ..... 36  
Ash Wednesday/Lent ..... 37  
Health and Healing ..... 38  
Spring Break ..... 39  
Easter Program ..... 40  
Good Friday ..... 41  
Easter ..... 42  
Pastors/Worship Leaders/Youth Leaders (B) ..... 43  
Mother’s Day ..... 44  
Fathers ..... 45  
Graduation ..... 46  
End of the School Year ..... 47  
About the Author ..... 48

*“For where two or three  
come together in my name,  
there am I with them.”*

## The story behind this packet

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Dear Educators,

A few years ago, the staff on which I served, wrestled with the growing issue of bullying and brain-stormed strategies of prevention. Somewhere in the discussion we remembered the importance of *praying* for our students' success in this area. We concluded *praying together regularly* for our students must be our first step in bullying prevention, and for all the other issues our students face.

The idea grew to adding a weekly prayer component to our regular morning staff devotions. I volunteered to develop this plan over the summer.

After some research, a short training was planned. In addition, Prayer Sheets were created to address the possible wide range of comfort levels of praying aloud among our teachers and to make the best use of our time. As I have shared these materials around the country, I have been encouraged to compile my work and make it available to others. Thus, the "Teachers' Prayer Companion" was born.

In these pages you will find an **Introductory Bible Study** to help ease your staff into praying together on a weekly basis in small groups, **tips** to keep your time efficient and **40 Prayer Sheets** to jump start each prayer session.

Unless otherwise noted, all scripture quotes are taken from the Concordia Self Study Bible, New International Version. Concordia Publishing House, 1984.

## Introductory Bible Study

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Most Christian school staff meet regularly for a short devotion or Bible study. Hopefully, such meetings already include a prayer element. Considering the scarcity of a teacher's time, isn't it enough to have the pastor, principal or leader say a quick prayer for everyone? There is nothing wrong with that model, yet as followers of Christ, it would benefit us to examine Jesus' view on the matter of praying out loud together.

**Read Matthew 18:19-20:**

“Again I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”

These familiar verses remind us the prayers of two or more believers will be heard and blessed. Does that mean the prayers in solitude are not blessed? Of course not. The Bible is filled with examples of God's people praying in isolation. So why the distinction here?

Look at the sections before and after our two verses. **What do you notice about the topics being addressed?** (Discuss if time allows).

Matthew 18:15-18 articulates the steps to take when someone sins against you. Verses 21 to the end of chapter 18 deal specifically with forgiveness. Both relate to sin, forgiveness, and unforgiveness in *relationships*. We find encouragement to gather and pray, couched between these key sections of scripture on conflict resolution.

Relationships are foundational to how well our schools operate. Healthy relationships produce healthy classrooms, staff, schools, families, and students. Unhealthy relationships threaten to destroy what has been built.

In addition, group prayer provides a witness to the faithfulness of God. Look back at verse 16. Jesus instructs us to include a witness if the solo confrontation is unsuccessful, “that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.” (Matthew 18:16)

Similarly, when two or three or more pray together, we become collective witnesses of God's amazing work through answered prayers. Joy is *shared* and God is glorified!

Yet our actions alone produce nothing. "Rather, the promise of the Father's answers to prayer (18:18-19) and of Christ's own presence (18:20) bind heaven and earth together in closest unity."<sup>i</sup> Jesus' own presence among our prayer groups allows us to approach the throne of God and lay our requests before Him. Christ alone strengthens our bond as believers.

Jesus instructs us to pray aloud together.

Jesus also models what He teaches.

The longest prayer in the Bible is the one Jesus himself spoke aloud. Glance at John 17. In this prayer Jesus prays for Himself, for His disciples, and for us prior to His crucifixion. Although they fell asleep, Jesus requested the presence of His closest friends when He prayed in the garden that night He was betrayed.

My favorite example of Jesus praying aloud was uttered on the cross for all to hear: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34) Oh, what we would have missed had Jesus prayed this prayer silently to His Father!

Jesus instructs His followers to pray together and He sets the example. The final reason we gather to pray together is because it works. We are encouraged in James 5:13-16:

"Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

## Tips for Prayer Time

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In “What Happens When Women Pray,” Evelyn Christenson shares “Six S’s” for successful prayer groups. (commentaries are mine):

1. **Subject by Subject** – Praying over each subject together models praying in one accord and fosters unity. The prayer sheets were developed to ensure each subject is covered.
2. **Short** - Keep requests and prayers short. God already knows the details.
3. **Simple** – Our goal is to lay our prayer needs before the Father, not to impress with flowery language.
4. **Specific** – General phrases such as “Bless him” are nice but inhibit our recognizing the specific ways God answers. Keep language specific, i.e. “Bless and heal him. Bring him back to school.”
5. **Silent** – Welcome moments of quiet. Although seemingly awkward at first, silence allow us to be still and listen to God.
6. **Small Groups** – Groups should be no more than 4 or 5 people. Otherwise prayer time becomes lengthy and the bell is ringing before you’re completed. In addition, small groups provide a less intimidating atmosphere for inexperienced pray-ers.<sup>ii</sup>



## The PRAYER SHEETS

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Each prayer sheet has a specific focus covering such topics as: your students, the families, staff, school events and holidays. The Prayer Sheets are designed to be copied<sup>1</sup> and shared with each staff member. After specific prayer requests are shared with the whole group, members of each small group decide who is going to pray what section of the prayer sheet.

**The Opener/Closer:** These were written for those who feel most comfortable reading a prayer.

**The open-ended topics:** A person can choose one or more open-ended suggestions and pray on the spot.

### **Family/Families of the Week and**

**Faculty/Staff of the Week:** What a privilege to pray for each school family and each member of our team over the course of the year! Have someone acquire a list and divide the names over the days/weeks you will be meeting. (The staff at my school later added a written note which they sent to those families/persons informing them of the prayers said on their behalf.)

**Special Requests:** One or two teachers volunteer to pray on the spot for any specific prayer requests shared with the whole group.

**Note:** You will notice Bible verses occasionally woven into the prayers. Intercessory prayer involves entering the spiritual battlefield on behalf of others. Therefore, we need our best weapon, the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Ephesians 6:17). As author Stormie Omartian explains, “When we employ God’s Word in prayer, we are laying hold of the promises He gives and appropriating them into the lives of our children.”<sup>iii</sup>

*I pray that as you and your staff gather and pray, your faith in our Lord Jesus will grow, your relationships will be strengthened, and your students and families will be blessed! May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ reign in your school!*

~ Gretchen Huesmann

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<sup>1</sup> Permission to copy and distribute the Prayer Sheets is limited to school-use only.



## Preparing for the School Year

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### **Opening:**

Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word promises that You hold this school year in Your hands. *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”* (Jeremiah 29:11) You know where we have been, where we are and what is ahead. Give us all we need to prepare: time, energy, creativity, and unity.

For our teaching teams...

For our classroom teams...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

As we go about our tasks, keep our purpose in focus. May Your love continue to shine in us through our work, discussions, decision, and preparations. Jesus, we give you all glory and honor. Amen.

## Curriculum Planning

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### **Opening:**

Holy Lord, we gather today for development and planning. As we prepare, remind us of our goals and commitment to You and the work You would have us do in this place.

For guidance and wisdom...

For unity of hearts and minds...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

*“May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us.”* (Psalm 90:17) We commit to You all that we do. It is for Your glory and in Your name we pray. Amen.

## Meeting New Students

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### **Opening:**

Dear Father in Heaven, as we prepare for a new school year, may Your presence be felt by all who enter this place, especially students who are new to our school family. As we meet at home visits and open houses, we ask You to bless these developing relationships.

For our current students to welcome and receive new classmates...

For the new students to feel welcome and included...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

*"Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."* (Romans 15:7 ESV) All honor and glory are Yours, Holy Lord! We lay our requests before Your throne in the name of our Savior, Jesus. Amen.

## Families Preparing for the School Year

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### **Opening:**

Loving Lord, very soon many families will be entering our building. They are busy now preparing for the year, wrapping up last minute family plans, all the while dealing with their own issues. We bring them before You today.

For their preparations...

For their relationships...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Give help where help is needed, grace and forgiveness amid conflict, and let love abound. We commit our families to You, Lord Jesus. It is in Your name we pray. Amen.

## Returning Students

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### **Opening:**

Almighty God, we are so grateful for new beginnings. You teach us in Your Word to *“Forget the former things, do not dwell in the past.”* You remind us, *“See, I am doing a new thing!”* (Isaiah 43:18-19a) Fresh starts are your specialty, Lord! Give us fresh eyes and hearts as we welcome back our students this year.

For our students who challenge us...

For our quieter, less demanding students...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Give us eyes to see each child as You do, Lord. Help us love unconditionally. May every person who enters our classroom feel welcomed and embraced by our school family. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## Staff

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### **Opening:**

Almighty God, we all have different gifts, *“according to the grace given to us.”* (Romans 12:6)  
You use each of us in unique ways. Today we celebrate those gifts possessed by all who work in this building including administrative assistants, paraprofessionals, teacher helpers, custodial and grounds care givers, and bus drivers. We are thankful, Lord, for each one.

For their spiritual growth...

For their health and safety...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Each member of our team has value, Lord. Help us never to take one another for granted. Let respect and kindness rule in our hallways and classrooms and help us recognize opportunities to share our appreciation for who they are and all they accomplish. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## Teachers

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### **Opening:**

Dear Jesus, our Great Teacher! As we sit at your feet today, we cling to the words of the Psalmist: *"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will council you and watch over you."* (Psalm 32:8) We ask for wisdom, Lord. Give us knowledge and insight.

For our lesson plans and preparations...

For our relationships...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Lead our instruction. Guide our plans. From the activities and artwork to lessons and lectures, let it all be done for Your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Student Relationships

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### **Opening:**

God of Peace, we focus today on the relationships in our classrooms. We pray our students will remember each classmate is precious in Your sight. But so often emotions, immaturity, insecurity and pain get in the way. We humbly ask for Your Holy Spirit.

For their words and actions toward one another...

For specific children who seem to be struggling...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Let our classrooms be filled with love, forgiveness, and grace. Help us to *“carry each other’s burdens”* (Galatians 6:2) and *“be kind and compassionate to one another.”* (Ephesians 4:32) We can only accomplish this with You, Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



## Pastors/Youth Leaders/Worship Leaders

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### **Opening:**

Holy Father, you instruct us in Your Word to *“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.”* (Hebrews 13:7)  
We lift up those who lead in the church, the Pastors, worship leaders, youth leaders, and Sunday school teachers. Guide their efforts to walk with You and teach of Your great love.

For their preparations and study of God’s Word...

For their relationships...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

May each leader in the church hold fast to Your teachings, O God. Guard their hearts and minds. Protect their families, keep them safe from illness, slander, and unrealistic expectations. Help us know how to support and love these faithful servants. In Your name we pray. Amen.

## Safety

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### **Opening:**

Dear Lord, our world is filled with violence and darkness. Yet, with You, we do not fear! You are faithful and You promise to *“strengthen and protect us from the evil one.”* (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

For the safety of our students and school...

For protection of our city, state, and country...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

*“Let all who take refuge in You be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who know your name may rejoice in you.”* (Psalm 5:11) In Jesus’ name. Amen.

## Veterans Day

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### **Opening:**

Precious Savior, you have appointed many men and women to guard and protect our country. We remember, honor, and lift in prayer all those who have served and those who continue to serve in our armed forces. *“But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name, may rejoice in you.”* (Psalm 5:11)

For their health and safety...

For their families...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

We give thanks to You for these brave men and women. Protect, guard, and keep them in Your care. Give them Your peace that passes all understanding. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

## Families of Faith

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### **Opening:**

Abba Father, because of your great love and sacrifice we may call you Daddy. Today we gather, as Your adopted Sons and Daughters and thank You for our spiritual family. For all those we serve alongside as partners in raising their children in the Lord, we give You thanks.

For the Christian parents in our school...

For their children...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

We commit this day to You, O Lord. Allow Your love to shine through us so that each child with whom we interact may grow in their faith. For all we do is for Your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Reformation

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### **Opening:**

You are a Mighty Fortress, Lord, yet also our loving Savior and approachable God. We are grateful for men like Martin Luther who brought the Bible into the hands of the people. May we never take this gift for granted and let us teach it with accuracy, humility, and the Holy Spirit's leading.

For the teaching of Your Word...

For our students' hearts and minds...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

We commit this day, our teaching, and all learning to You, O Lord. *“Let the words of my mouth, and the mediation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.”* (Psalm 19:14 ESV) Amen.

## Parent Teacher Conferences

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### **Opening:**

Loving Father, we thank You today for all the parents and families we have the privilege to serve in this place. Give us wisdom as we partner with these families to best meet the educational needs of their children. Prepare their hearts and minds to receive that which we need to share.

For our preparation of reports...

For our communication with the parents...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Grant us Your Holy Spirit, Lord, so that we may effectively connect with our parents for the good of our students. *“Show me Your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long.”* (Psalm 25:4-5)  
Amen.

## Parents/Grandparents/Guardians

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### **Opening:**

Almighty God, we thank You for this day. We thank You for the gift of the children in our lives. Lord, raising children can be an overwhelming task. Parents, grandparents, and foster parents need Your help and guidance.

For their spiritual walk...

For wisdom, patience, and strength...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Thank You, Lord, for Your wisdom. Strengthen our efforts and those who parent our students to “train a child in the way they should go.” (Proverbs 22:6a). Holy Lord, we thank You for Your presence in our school, in our families, and in our lives. We commit our students and this day to You. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

# Thanksgiving

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## **Opening:**

Giver of all blessings, we come before You today with humble hearts, knowing that all we have comes from You. You have provided all our needs for this life: work, home, family, friends, health, and much more.

For all relational and material blessings ....

For our salvation and spiritual blessings...

## **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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## **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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## **Special Requests:**

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## **Closing:**

*"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good! His love endures forever!"* (Psalm 136:1) We praise and thank You today and always for Your abundant generosity! Amen!



## Difficult Students

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### **Opening:**

Almighty God, the tasks before us can seem challenging, especially when faced with students who are troubled and struggling. You understand their needs, O Lord. You know their hearts, minds, and circumstances. We ask for Your guidance and direction.

For wisdom...

For patience and strength...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

You promise, O Lord, to grant wisdom when we ask for it. (James 1:5) We ask now for guidance as we manage our classrooms and meet the needs of each precious student You have put in our care. We commit these precious students and our day to You. Amen.

## Advent

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### **Opening:**

Precious Savior, You “*became flesh and dwelt among us.*” (John 1:14 ESV) You left Your heavenly home to enter this world as a helpless infant. You gave up Your throne for a feeding trough. We are in awe of that mystery and sacrifice.

As we prepare to celebrate Your first coming...

As we prepare for Your second coming...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

We thank You, Jesus, for such a sacrifice. We celebrate Your birth with joy and eagerly anticipate Your return. Come Lord Jesus, quickly come! Amen.

## Christmas Program

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### **Opening:**

Dear Holy Lord, we are excited to share the message of Your birth with our families and community. We have worked hard on lines and songs! What a privilege it is to share the Good News of our Savior's birth.

For our students...

For those who will hear the message...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Let the joy of the season ring loud and clear! Let Your light shine through our students' faces! Let all who attend rejoice and be glad. We commit this program and all our Advent and Christmas preparations to You, Lord God. We give You all glory and praise for the work You are doing among us. Amen.

## Christmas Break

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### **Opening:**

O Lord, Our God, we are grateful for all the work that has been accomplished these past weeks. We praise and thank You for the opportunities to do Your Kingdom work. We humbly ask now for Your "*Sabbath-rest.*" (Hebrews 4:9)

For our students during this time away from school...

For our teachers and staff...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

As we break from this work let us go forth joyfully to celebrate with family and with the people of God in worship! Bring us back together rejuvenated and refreshed ready to serve You again! In Jesus name. Amen.

## New Year

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### **Opening:**

Dear Lord and Savior, we gather again to praise Your Name! We are thankful for Your faithfulness and grateful for Your promises of the future. You tell us in Isaiah, “*Forget the former things and do not dwell on the past. See! I am doing a new thing!*” (Isaiah 43:18)

For our school and classrooms...

For our teachers and students...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

We dedicate this New Year to You, Holy God. May all our plans, activities, and lessons be done for Your Glory and for the spreading of the Gospel and the growing of Your Kingdom. Amen.

## Families/Individuals Who May Not Know You

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### Opening:

Giver of all Grace and Salvation, You desire *“that all be saved and come to the knowledge of truth.”* (1 Timothy 2:4) We know there are some in our midst who do not know you personally. We are in awe of Your perfect plan to intersect our paths. Holy Spirit, work in their hearts and minds and bring them to faith.

For the parents...

For the children...

### School Family(ies) of the Week:

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### School Faculty and Staff of the Week:

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### Special Requests:

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### Closing:

Jesus, as we bring math, science, reading, art, and every other topic to our families and students, let us never lose sight of our greatest commission, to make disciples. Let our witness always point to You. Amen.

## Staff (B)

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### **Opening:**

Heavenly Father, today we are grateful for the team of workers who keep our ministry going! We pray for the office staff, janitorial staff, grounds keepers, assistants, and volunteers. These amazing people are precious in your sight.

For their labor...

For their families and relationships...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

May we all have “...unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.” (1 Peter 3:8 ESV) Be the center of our team, O Lord. All this we ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.

## School Celebration Week

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### **Opening:**

Dear Heavenly Father, we are grateful for the Christian educational institutions across our country and around the world. You have established these places of worship and education, and we are honored to be a part of Your mission.

For our churches and schools...

For our teachers and students...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Bless the speaking and the hearing of your Word in these places, O God. Let our institution be a light in our community to grow Your kingdom. All this we pray in Your Name and for Your Glory, Amen.



## Teachers (B)

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### **Opening:**

Dear Lord, Your word instructs us to *“encourage one another and build each other up.”*  
(1 Thessalonians 5:11) We cannot do this without Your help. We allow stress, disagreement, and unforgiveness to come between us. Forgive us, Lord Jesus.

For our relationships with each other...

For our relationships with our students...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

You are the Great Teacher. As we sit at Your feet, lead us, guide us, and give us wisdom as we lead others. Help us reflect the same grace and mercy You have given to us. In Your name we pray. Amen.

## Re-Enrollment

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### **Opening:**

God, Our Father, today we consider the future of this place. As we plan and prepare for next year, move in the hearts of those who You have planned to be here. Bring the families who need to hear the freeing message of the Gospel.

For potential parents and students...

For current parents and students...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Let Your love shine through us so that ours will be a welcoming environment for all. Fill our classroom with Your children. Bless our work for the sake of Your Kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Valentine's Day

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### **Opening:**

Giver of life and love, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the love You have shown us through Your Son, Jesus. It is only through His sacrificial love that we can even begin to love one another.

For our students' friendships...

For those students/families who are difficult to love...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Lord, You have instructed us to *"Love each other as I have loved you."* (John 15:12) Help us reflect Your love in our classrooms that our students and families may know You better. Amen.

## Presidents' Day

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### **Opening:**

Holy Lord, the Bible reminds us *“that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful, quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”* (1 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV) We thank You for the leaders of yesterday and today who have bravely vowed to lead our country.

For our national, state, and local leaders...

For church and school leaders...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Continue to guide all those in authority, that they may lead with honesty, uprightness, integrity, and wisdom that only comes from You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Grandparents/Family Day

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### **Opening:**

Holy Father, our families are a gift from You. We celebrate families this week and ask a special blessing upon our guests. As we open our doors, may they recognize our welcome and receive our hospitality.

For our students...

For their families...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Fill this place with Your Spirit, O Lord. Let love and peace reign in this building and in our classrooms. Fill our visitors' hearts with joy as we celebrate in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Ash Wednesday/Lent

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### **Opening:**

Precious Savior, as we enter this season of reflection, we remember the great suffering You endured on our behalf. We ponder the mystery of such a love and humbly thank You for Your sacrifice.

For hearts and minds during this season...

For our students and families...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

*"Have mercy on us O God, according to Your unfailing love: according to Your great compassion blot out our transgressions."* (Psalm 51:1) We praise and thank you Lord, Jesus, for the gift of salvation. Amen.

## Health and Healing

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### **Opening:**

Lord and Savior, You are the Healer of all disease and sickness. We pray for protection for all our staff, students, and their families from illness. Give us wisdom to rest and care for ourselves when needed. Teach us to eat well, move our bodies, drink water and practice healthy habits.

For our physical and spiritual health...

For mental and emotional health...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Lord, we thank You for the gift of health. Help us not neglect this *“temple of the Holy Spirit”* which comes from You. (1 Corinthians 6:19) Give us strength and energy to accomplish Your work. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

## Spring Break

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### **Opening:**

Father God, You are very aware of the effort and energy this school year has required of us. Your word says, *"A generous man will prosper. He who refreshes others will himself be refreshed."* (Proverbs 11:25 NIV) As we prepare for spring break we ask for rest, rejuvenation, and refreshment.

For our school faculty and staff...

For our students and their families...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Go with us Lord. Keep us safe and grant us peace. Allow us to return safely to this place, feeling refreshed and ready to complete the school year. It is in the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.



## Easter Program

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### **Opening:**

Risen Lord, our children are prepared to share the Good News of Your work on the cross and triumphant Easter Joy! Our teachers have worked tirelessly to bring this program to our families. We pray now for all who will hear this message.

For those who do not know You...

For the students and their families...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

*“From the lips of children and infants You have ordained praise because of Your enemies...”*  
(Psalm 8:2a) Use this Easter event to break chains of darkness and bring the light of Salvation to all who hear! For Your glory, Jesus! Amen.

## Good Friday

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### **Opening:**

Father in heaven, You loved the world so much that You gave Your only Son for us. Our punishment became His. We cannot fathom such a great love. We humbly approach the foot of Your cross today.

For the sins we lay before you now... (*silent confession*)

For the great gifts of forgiveness and salvation...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

“What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest Friend, for this, Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end? O make me Thine forever; and should I fainting be, Lord let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.”<sup>iv</sup> Amen.

## Easter

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### **Opening:**

Risen Savior, You have conquered death and the devil and provided atonement for the sins of all mankind. We celebrate Your victory with the angels in heaven! He is Risen!

For our students...

For our school families...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Jesus, You are "*the resurrection and the Life.*" (John 11:25) We thank You for the gift of eternal salvation. Let us go now with Easter joy! Let the message of hope shine through us to all we meet today. He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen.

## Pastors/Worship Leaders/Youth Leaders (B)

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### **Opener:**

Gracious God, today we thank You for our pastors and leaders in our church. We pray for their mental and physical health, for protection from the evil one, and for their efforts as they lead us.

For their labor in the church...

For their families and relationships...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Lord, we pray *“no weapon formed against (them) will prosper.”* (Isaiah 54:17) Heal any brokenness or grief that may be caused by ministry or personal struggle. Let them have the mind and heart of Christ. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

## Mother's Day

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### **Opening:**

Dear Heavenly Father, today we honor our mothers, grandmothers, foster moms, and guardians. You have chosen each one for their special abilities of influence and love.

For their spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional health...

For their relationships...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Lord, let us never take for granted the role these precious people have played in our lives and in the lives of our students. Grant them an extra measure of peace and strength today. Let *“her children rise up and call her blessed.”* (Proverbs 31:28) Amen.

## Fathers

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### **Opening:**

Abba Father, thank You for the fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other men of influence You have placed in our lives. These leaders of the home face much responsibility in this sin-filled world.

For their spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional health...

For their relationships...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

We especially thank You, faithful Father. Thank You for Your love, protection, and guidance. Give all fathers Your love, strength, and courage to lead with integrity and Biblical principles. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## Graduation

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### **Opening:**

Dear Heavenly Father, You have graciously brought us to the end of another school year. We recall with joy our students' efforts and accomplishments. Some of these precious students will launch to a new place of learning and life.

For their future decisions and work...

For their relationships, especially with You...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

As we say good-bye to our graduates let us remember, *"Being confident in this, that He who began a good work (in them) will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."*  
(Philippians 1:6) Go with them, Lord. Continue Your work in their lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## End of the School Year

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### **Opening:**

Dear Loving Lord, we praise You for the work You have accomplished in this place. Through challenges and trouble, accomplishments and celebrations, You have been faithful. *“Come and see what God has done, how awesome His works in man’s behalf.”* (Psalm 66:5)

For our students and families...

For teachers and staff...

### **School Family(ies) of the Week:**

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### **School Faculty and Staff of the Week:**

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### **Special Requests:**

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### **Closing:**

Go with us now as we wrap up last minute details, plan for next year, and close our classrooms. Guide and keep our students, their families, our staff and faculty safe until we meet again. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



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<sup>i</sup> Jeffery Gibbs. *Matthew 11:2-20:34*, Concordia Commentary, (St. Louis, Concordia Publishing House, 2010), 917.

<sup>ii</sup> Evelyn Christenson, *What Happens When Women Pray*, (Victor Books, Wheaton, 1975), 52-61.

<sup>iii</sup> Stormie Omartian. *The Power of the Praying Parent*, (Eugene, Harvest House, 1995), 22.

<sup>iv</sup> "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," Lutheran Worship, CPH, St. Louis, 1982.

## About the Author

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Gretchen Huesmann comes from a long line of Christian educators. A graduate of Concordia University, Chicago, Gretchen has taught school in both public and private settings in 5 states. She shares her passion for God's Word in the classroom, through speaking engagements, in Bible classes, and in her blog, [www.gretchenhuesmann.com](http://www.gretchenhuesmann.com)

Gretchen and her pastor-husband have served in the Lord in Washington, Idaho, Wisconsin, and now in Pensacola, Florida. They completed Pastoral Leadership Institute training in 2004 and served as coaches to pastors/wives in PLI Missional Leader.

Gretchen and her husband have raised 4 terrific children. She enjoys gardening, walking, reading, writing, and resting on the beach.

"Teachers' Prayer Companion" is Gretchen's first e-book. She welcomes your comments at [gretchen.huesmann@gmail.com](mailto:gretchen.huesmann@gmail.com)

