

40 DAYS OF *prayer*

KIDS DEVOTIONAL



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INTRO

Dear Child Champion,

Thank you so much for being dedicated to bringing children into the 40 Days of Prayer initiative with the Alliance family! This guide will help you introduce children to the weekly theme through a small weekly devotional, a key verse, and a weekly prayer prompt. A brief video will also recap each weekly piece as a supplemental resource. This children's guide can be used in a church setting or by a parent or guardian in the home to accompany the adult 40 Days of Prayer content.

This children's guide contains six devotionals and accompanying videos. If you are utilizing this in addition to a weekly children's church curriculum, you can expect it to take 5 to 7 minutes to complete this.

We hope this resource will help you as you encourage children to pray alongside their collective Alliance family. We believe children play a vital Kingdom role, and we are honored to have them on this journey with us!

Blessings,



Leah Broach

National Director for Alliance Kids



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WAKE UP NOW



KEY VERSE

"And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed."

—Romans 13:11

Are you a morning person? Do you like to wake up early and start the day before anybody in your house, or are you a night owl who likes to sleep in and snuggle late into the morning? God makes us all with different likes and dislikes, but we all need sleep no matter what we like best.

Sometimes, we get so tired that we can barely hold open our eyes. Maybe it's a long car ride or a long day, and before we know it, we're extra tired. Our eyes want to close, and our head bobbles around while we drift in and out of sleep.

Being drowsy is not the best feeling. We should never try to do important things when we are so sleepy that we can't think! Imagine taking a math test with our eyes closed! That would not work well. There are important times to sleep, and there are important times to be awake.

We will join our Alliance family for 40 Days of Prayer these next few weeks. This is a very special and powerful time that we set aside to pray with our fellow believers, asking and expecting God to do great things in our world.

This is something we should definitely be wide awake for!

This week's key verse in Romans tells us that the hour has already come for us to wake up from sleeping because God's salvation is near. That means we should be awake and excited about all the beautiful things God is doing in our lives, in The Alliance, and in the world. When we gather to pray during this special time, we need to be excited and hopeful because we know God hears our prayers and works powerfully on behalf of His followers who pray

Today, let's pray together by thanking God for His great love for us. Let's ask Him to help us be excited and expectant during these 40 days to see His hand at work in this world and that many will come to know His love and salvation!



PLAY VIDEO

<https://vimeo.com/883416600/d7684262c1>

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PRAY NOW



KEY VERSE

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up."

–Luke 18:1

Have you ever started something really hard and wanted to quit before you finished? Maybe you've worked on a puzzle that seems impossible or you've tried to play a sport that is a lot harder than it looks. So many things in our lives are great when we begin them, but when anything gets just a little hard, we are tempted to give up and quit.

Our key verse today talks about a parable that Jesus told His disciples. He shared with them a story about a woman whose husband had died, and someone was being unfair to her so much that she needed to see a judge. This judge did not care about the woman, nor did he follow God, but every day, this woman went before him and asked for his help without losing patience. The judge ignored her for a while, but she was so persistent that it started getting on his nerves. Finally, he told her he would honor her request since she did not stop asking for what she needed. It wasn't because he cared; instead, it was because she would not give up. You can read this in Luke 18:1–8.

Jesus told the disciples that God is far better than an uncaring judge. When His people do not give up and continue to pray, He will surely hear and act

on their behalf because of His great love for us. Sometimes when we pray, it might seem like God isn't listening because He doesn't say yes immediately to every prayer. You can be confident that God always hears the prayers of His people and that He will answer. Sometimes, the answer is yes. Sometimes, the answer is no. Then, there are other times when God asks us to wait. His answers are perfect, even when we are impatient.

Now is the time to pray. We don't have to be a certain age or have any special job. God is ready to hear us because He loves when His kids pray to Him. It might be tempting to not want to be still or quiet. Maybe you think praying is hard, but it is simply talking to God! You can pray out loud or silently. God looks and listens to our hearts, so don't give up, and don't lose heart. God hears our prayers!

Today, let's pray that we will be faithful to prayer. As our faith grows, God will increase our ability to pray! Let's ask Him to help our families, churches, and The Alliance to be faithful prayer people who trust God's timing!



PLAY VIDEO

<https://vimeo.com/884041169/8ef5f79735>

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HIS NOW



KEY VERSE

"Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

–1 Peter 2:10

Is there something you dream about becoming when you grow up? Do you know what it might take to become that? Are you hoping to be an athlete, a doctor, or a professional singer? We all have dreams of things we'd like to become someday. Those dreams take a lot of hard work, education, and persistence to grow into the person you'd like to be.

One thing that you do not have to work hard at is becoming a child of God. Once you say yes to Jesus, you are His immediately, that very moment. We don't have to work hard or wait patiently; we are His if we trust Jesus.

We are His right NOW!

That truth is so important to know as a kid. When you take Jesus as your Savior, you become an immediate member of God's family. You get all the Holy Spirit, Jesus, and the purposes He has given to those who follow Him. You get the hope and promise of eternal life with God. You don't have to fear or worry about your future because God holds it all for you. This is an amazing blessing of God, and we should want the whole world to know it! It is the most important thing anyone can become: a child of God!

As we pray over these 40 days, remember that not everyone has said yes to God. Some people are still waiting to hear this good news. God tells us in His Word that all His children have the special power and privilege to tell the whole world about the amazing love of Jesus. So, right now, as His kid, let's join our family of praying believers so that many will come to know Him.

Today, let's pray that the good news of Jesus is spread worldwide. Let's ask God what He would have us do to help share His love with the world! Remember, we are His now, and we don't have to wait until we are all grown up to tell others about His love!



PLAY VIDEO

<https://vimeo.com/884041220/6a2f2d0dd6>

WORSHIP NOW



KEY VERSE

"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks."

—John 4:23

Let's talk about worship. Do you know what worship is? Worship is what we do, say, and think that honors God. Sometimes, we worship God through music by playing and singing praises to Him. Other times, we worship God by loving others as Jesus loves us. We also worship God when we honor Him with our thoughts. Worship looks different at different times, but it is all a loving, honoring act that we give to our wonderful God who loves us.

When we worship, we take time to connect our hearts to the truths of God. It helps us focus and reminds us of what's truly important. Worship takes the spotlight off us and puts it where it belongs: on God.

One of the most important things to remember about worship is that it comes from our hearts. It's not just about going through the motions or saying the right words. It's about understanding the truth of who God is and feeling and expressing our love and devotion for Him.

As we pray with our Alliance family this week, we want to spend time in worship. God loves our worship. He loves when we think, act, and live our lives in

a way that honors Him. He helps us to grow in our faith, grow in our godly character, and grow in our love for others. We respond to God's goodness with our worship.

[Leader, this is a great time to worship through music and pray with your group.]



PLAY VIDEO

<https://vimeo.com/884041281/ac2f7797e4>

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FAMILY NOW



KEY VERSE

*"Now, you are the body of Christ,
and each one of you is a part of it."*
—1 Corinthians 12:27

Family is very important in our lives. It is made up of the people who love and care for us the most. Our typical family members include our parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. As followers of Jesus, our family grows beyond number because God tells us in His Word that we are all His children. That means all people worldwide and throughout time who have made Jesus their Lord and Savior are all a part of our faith family. This giant faith family makes up the Church and is very special to Christ. He gave His life for this family, and He wants nothing more than to see it grow larger and larger with those who know His Truth.

We know we should always treat our family members with love and respect. That goes for our typical family and the family of God. We should listen to others and try to understand their feelings. We should be loving and forgiving.

We can have a lot of fun with our family members too! We can play games, go on trips, or spend time together. We can enjoy corporate worship, mission trips, and fun events. Making happy memories with our family is important because togetherness helps us experience belonging.

Family should also be willing to help others that are struggling or hurting. God tells us that the two most important commandments are to love Him with our whole hearts and to love each other. That means we need to let our love for God drive our love for each other. It also means we should be willing to receive love from others and their help when we are struggling.

Just like typical families grow, so should the family of God. God commissions us to bring the gospel's good news worldwide so that many can become His children. In The Alliance, we say *All of Jesus for All the World* because we want this family to grow beyond number.

This week, as we pray, thank God for family. Thank Him for the family you live with and worship with. Thank Him for the family of believers you may not even know. Ask God to help us grow this family of believers worldwide!



PLAY VIDEO

<https://vimeo.com/884041368/4cdb4d62a4>

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EVANGELIZE NOW



KEY VERSE

"For he says, 'In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation, I helped you.' I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation."

-2 Corinthians 6:2

Do you know what the word *evangelize* means? It's a big word that means telling others about the love of Jesus and inviting them to know and love Him as their Savior. As followers of Jesus, this is something we all can do and should do because of God's great love for us.

What if you won a fantastic prize, like one million dollars or a free vacation to Disney World? That would be awesome, and you would be so excited. There would be people you would want to tell! You wouldn't be able to stop talking about your exciting news.

Finding Jesus as our Savior is a prize that nothing compares to. Money eventually gets spent, and vacations only last for a while. But a life with Jesus has no end! His love never stops, and His promise of eternity in a perfect heaven is so amazing that it is hard to begin comprehending. That's like Disney and money and endless vacation forever and ever. Only, it's even better because there will be no pain, sadness, or sin. A perfect eternity with our loving God is a gift that everyone can and should have! That is why we evangelize. We have the very best news for the whole world.

Remember, we don't have to wait to tell others about Jesus. You don't have to be an adult or know many facts. You must understand that Jesus loves you, died for you, and rose again to offer you a way to be with Him forever. When you know and have experienced it, you can share it with others and invite them to experience it. You can evangelize.

As we finish this last week in our 40 Days of Prayer, I hope you are excited and encouraged about how much God loves you and that you have a big family of believers worldwide who share this love. Let's get excited and remember that we are God's children. Let's tell the world together about the best prize that everyone can receive!



PLAY VIDEO

<https://vimeo.com/884041634/8d83b0ef34>

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