

Christian Prayer Jar for Kids: 40 Gentle Family Prompts

A seven-page setup, prompt, label, and privacy guide in colour and low ink.

INSIDE THIS PDF

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- Ten gratitude and notice prompts
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- Four jar labels, blank prompts, and setup steps
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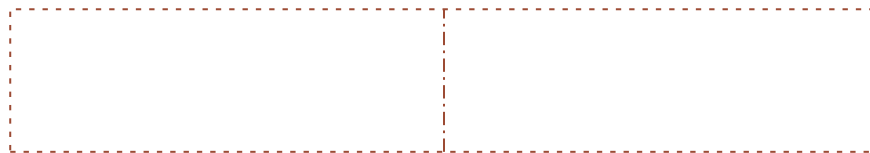
HOW TO USE

Adult-led · Ages approximately 4–12 · Participation is optional

LISTEN · DRAW · MOVE · SPEAK · AAC · PASS

STOP ANY TIME

You do not have to keep going. We can stop, keep our eyes open, move, draw, get water, or sit with a trusted grown-up.



CUT

FOLD

Our paraphrase, not Scripture text. Exact wording: World English Bible (public domain).

Gratitude & notice · prompts

Any slip: speak, point, draw, move, listen, or pass. Nothing has to be explained, and no names or private details go on a slip.

CUT

J01 · Notice help GRATITUDE  Notice one ordinary thing that helped today. Point or draw it. Philippians 4:6-7	J02 · Thank for care GRATITUDE  Thank God for a person who showed care. Use a role, not a name. 1 Thessalonians 5:18
J03 · Notice creation GRATITUDE  Look at a cloud, leaf, animal, or patch of light. Say thank you. Psalm 19:1	J04 · Remember welcome GRATITUDE  Remember a meal, song, book, or place that made you welcome. Psalm 103:1-5
J05 · Learning ability GRATITUDE  Thank God for one thing you are learning. Still learning is fine. 1 Peter 4:10	J06 · Notice kindness GRATITUDE  Name a kindness from a story. You may draw the scene instead. Ephesians 4:32
J07 · Name God's character GRATITUDE  Choose a word for God: faithful, merciful, patient, wise, or near. Psalm 145:8-9	J08 · Care for a place GRATITUDE  Notice one way people cared for a shared place. Pray for it. Genesis 2:15
J09 · Thanks with honesty GRATITUDE  Give thanks for help on a hard day. Thanks never erases lament. Psalm 13	J10 · Remember delight GRATITUDE  Choose one small delight to remember. You may keep it quiet. Psalm 16:11

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Care for people & creation · prompts

Any slip: speak, point, draw, move, listen, or pass. Nothing has to be explained, and no names or private details go on a slip.

CUT

J11 · Welcome those needing care CARE  Pray for children and adults who need welcome today. Mark 10:13-16	J12 · Care for the weary CARE  Pray for people who are sick, grieving, lonely, or tired. Romans 12:15
J13 · Pray for helpers CARE  Pray for teachers, caregivers, and ministry leaders. Choose one. 1 Timothy 2:1-2	J14 · Pray for peacemakers CARE  Pray for peacemakers. Ask for wisdom and courage, not a result. Matthew 5:9
J15 · Care for an affected place CARE  Pray for a place hit by weather, conflict, or loss. Psalm 46:1	J16 · Care for animals CARE  Pray for animals and the people who care for them, or draw one. Psalm 104:24
J17 · Welcome someone left out CARE  Pray for people who feel left out. Name one welcoming action. Romans 15:7	J18 · Remember shared food CARE  Pray for people who grow, cook, deliver, or share food. Matthew 6:11
J19 · Care for the earth CARE  Pray for the earth and for wise use of water and energy. Genesis 2:15	J20 · Pray for wise safety CARE  Pray for safety and welcome. Adults still make the safety plan. Proverbs 11:14

Our paraphrase, not Scripture text. Exact wording: World English Bible (public domain).

Remember God's story · prompts

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CUT

J21 · Hear a Scripture reference REMEMBER  Hear a short Scripture reference. What image do you notice? 2 Timothy 3:16-17	J22 · Remember Jesus welcomes REMEMBER  Jesus welcomed children. What could welcome look like in a story? Mark 10:13-16
J23 · Remember asking for help REMEMBER  Remember a Bible story where someone asked for help. Mark 10:46-52	J24 · Choose a Psalm image REMEMBER  Choose a Psalm image: water, path, table, song, or shelter. Psalm 23:1-4
J25 · Remember waiting REMEMBER  Remember someone in Scripture who waited. Pray for patience. Psalm 27:14	J26 · Tell the truth to God REMEMBER  Name a Bible person who told God the truth. Questions are allowed. Psalm 13
J27 · Love a neighbour wisely REMEMBER  Read Jesus' command to love a neighbour. Choose one act of care. Mark 12:31	J28 · Read the paragraph REMEMBER  Ask an adult to read the whole paragraph around a verse. Acts 17:11
J29 · Carry a Scripture word REMEMBER  Choose a word from a passage: truth, mercy, courage, or peace. Philippians 4:8	J30 · Learn without a score REMEMBER  Pray to enjoy Scripture without a score, streak, or test. Psalm 119:15-16

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Honest ask & next step · prompts

Any slip: speak, point, draw, move, listen, or pass. Nothing has to be explained, and no names or private details go on a slip.

CUT

J31 · Ask for a next step HONEST  Ask God for help with one next step. Naming the topic is enough. Philippians 4:6	J32 · Ask for conversation wisdom HONEST  Ask for wisdom for a conversation. An adult helps plan it. James 1:5
J33 · Tell the truth and repair HONEST  Ask for strength to tell the truth. No detail is required. 1 John 1:9	J34 · Ask for help with a big feeling HONEST  Ask for help when a feeling is big. Tell a trusted adult too. Psalm 34:18
J35 · Include someone safely HONEST  Ask for courage to include someone. A made-up example is fine. Romans 12:10	J36 · Ask for help with change HONEST  Ask for help with waiting or a changed plan. You may draw a road. Proverbs 3:5-6
J37 · Ask about a boundary HONEST  Ask for wisdom about a boundary. Love never means staying unsafe. Proverbs 4:23	J38 · Ask for ordinary care HONEST  Ask for help to rest, eat, drink water, move, or take a break. Mark 6:31
J39 · Ask an adult to notice HONEST  Ask a trusted adult to notice when help is needed. Galatians 6:2	J40 · Choose pass HONEST  Say a general prayer, or say: I pass today. Passing is complete. Romans 12:12

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Labels, blanks, and setup steps

Any slip: speak, point, draw, move, listen, or pass. Nothing has to be explained, and no names or private details go on a slip.

1. CHOOSE A SAFE CONTAINER

Use a clean plastic or other non-breakable container. An adult checks the opening, edges, and storage spot before adding paper prompts.

Safety: Do not use glass near young children. Keep scraps, beads, cords, magnets, batteries, flames, and hot liquids away.

2. PRINT AND PREPARE

Print the seven-page file at 100% / Actual size. An adult cuts the labels and prompt slips while a child may colour a flat page.

Safety: Cutting is adult-only. Keep the category word and pattern attached to every slip.

3. ADD THE FOUR LABELS

Attach GRATITUDE & NOTICE, CARE, REMEMBER, and ASK & NEXT STEP to the container or four envelopes. Words and patterns remain visible in low ink.

Safety: Use tape or a glue stick. Store the labelled container where an adult can protect private notes.

4. CHOOSE A PROMPT

The adult previews one slip and says: You may answer, draw, listen, choose another, or pass. Read it slowly without demanding eye contact or speech.

Safety: A child never has to write a name, fear, conflict, diagnosis, or secret.

5. RESPOND AND CLOSE

Offer a sentence, drawing, movement, AAC response, or adult-led prayer. Close with: We can come back another day. There is no required emptying ritual.

Safety: Never photograph, score, or post a private slip. Discard notes securely when an adult has handled them.

6. USE THE FLAT ALTERNATIVE

Place the forty prompts in a labelled envelope and choose from the table instead of a container. The complete prayer-jar practice works without a jar.

Safety: For a group, an adult holds the prompts and provides a private route for any concern.

GRATITUDE & NOTICE	CARE	REMEMBER	ASK & NEXT STEP
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MATERIALS

Clean plastic or another non-breakable container · Paper, blunt scissors, crayons or pencils · Tape or a glue stick · Four labelled envelopes or jar sides · A second envelope for unused prompts

BLANK GENERIC PROMPTS

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Storage, privacy, reuse, and sources

PROTECT PRIVACY AND DISCLOSURES

Keep the jar private and adult-reviewed. Do not read a child's slip aloud without permission. If a note says someone is unsafe, hurt, or thinking about self-harm, stop, listen without leading questions, and follow the host safeguarding or emergency process.

Do not use the jar to investigate. For younger children, use picture labels and adult scribing. Older children may write privately, but notes are never photographed, uploaded, scored, or used as a family record.

PRINT, CUT, AND REUSE

The seven-page PDF has a cover and setup page, four ten-prompt sheets, a labels and blank-prompts page, and a final storage, privacy, and sources page. Prompt text is readable in colour and low ink, with patterns carrying category meaning.

Review the set when a prompt no longer suits the family. Discard a private request after the adult has handled it. There is no required emptying ritual and no need to preserve a note.

SOURCE LEDGER

1 · World English Bible

Reference-first Scripture and public-domain wording policy. · Checked 2026-08-03

<https://ebible.org/web/>

2 · US Consumer Product Safety Commission

Under-3 and loose-part boundaries for paper craft setups. · Checked 2026-08-03

<https://www.cpsc.gov/node/24135>

3 · UNICEF

Preventative and risk-based adult safeguarding. · Checked 2026-08-03

<https://www.unicef.org/documents/safeguarding-policy>

4 · Church of England safeguarding

Host-organisation safeguarding ownership and reporting boundaries. · Checked 2026-08-03

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding>

5 · National Institute of Mental Health

Professional-care escalation when distress persists or affects daily life. · Checked 2026-08-03

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/child-and-adolescent-mental-health>

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