



**180**

**Faith-Building  
Prayers**

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**FOR BOYS**



The background of the book cover is white with a repeating pattern of light blue geometric shapes, including triangles and rectangles, some of which are filled with horizontal lines. A large, dark blue circle is centered on the page, containing the title text. The title is written in a dark blue, sans-serif font. The number '180' is at the top, followed by 'Faith-Building Prayers' in a larger font size. A horizontal line is positioned below 'Prayers', and 'FOR BOYS' is written in a bold, all-caps font below the line.

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**Faith-Building**  
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**FOR BOYS**

Janice Thompson

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*Our mission is to inspire the world with the life-changing message of the Bible.*



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## INTRODUCTION

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*God is interested in every single thing you have to say!*

In fact, He loves when His kids take the time to talk to Him. You've got a lot on your mind, and His ears are wide open. This devotional prayer book is a great reminder to talk with God about anything and everything. Whether you're happy or sad, up or down, excited or down in the dumps, you'll find prayers in this book that will hit the spot. Each prayer is perfectly paired with a great verse from the Bible—a totally wonderful way for you to begin or end your day.

Quiet time with God is the best! He can't wait to hang out with you. So what's keeping you? Dive on in! Let's start praying.



## BUDDIES

You've had a lot of friends in your life—some better than others. You know whom you can trust and whom you can't. God wants you to pray for all of your friends, even the ones who bug you. Yep, it's going to be hard, but you can do it!

### MY BUDDIES, MY FRIENDS

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Jesus, thank You for my friends! The tall ones, short ones, talkative ones, shy ones, goofy ones, quiet ones. . . I love them all, and I'm happy they're in my life. Even on the bad days my buddies know how to make me laugh. When I'm feeling down, they make me forget about my troubles. They tell me jokes, and I can't stop laughing. They act goofy so I won't be upset anymore. Sometimes they just sit and listen when I tell them what I'm going through. I like that best of all. I don't know where I'd be without my friends, Lord. Show me how to be the kind of friend others have been to me so that I can be a shining reflection of You in this world. I want to be the best friend I can be. Amen.



*A man of many companions may come to ruin,  
but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

PROVERBS 18:24 ESV



## DARE TO BE DIFFERENT

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I don't know why I work so hard to be like my friends, Lord. You didn't create us to be cookie-cutter creations, after all. (Yum—cookies sound good right now!) What does it really matter if my shoes are a different brand or I wear my hair in a different style? Sometimes it's cooler to stand out in the crowd, to be unique. Give me the courage to be myself. I don't want to be a follower. I want to be a leader, one who dares to be exactly who he's supposed to be. And when others are saying mean or hurtful things to kids around them, I want to act differently. I don't just want to *look* different; I want to be different. Help me, I pray. Amen.



*Finally, dear brothers and sisters, we urge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to live in a way that pleases God, as we have taught you. You live this way already, and we encourage you to do so even more.*

1 THESSALONIANS 4:1 NLT





## ACCOUNTABILITY

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Sometimes, Lord, I need an accountability partner—someone who holds me responsible, someone who says, “Hey, did you do that thing you said you were gonna do?” I don’t always follow through on my own, but with the help of a friend, maybe I’d do a better job. Can You show me which friend would make a good partner? And while we’re at it, could You help me be that kind of friend to others? I want to be the sort of person others can turn to when they need a reminder. Most of all, I’m thankful that You hold me accountable, Lord. You’re always whispering in my ear, “Hey, remember to clean your room!” or “Don’t forget to do your homework.” Best accountability partner ever! Amen.



*Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

GALATIANS 6:1–2 ESV



## HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

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Lord, You know I've had a few rocky friendships. There are some boys out there who make things really hard. They tell lies and sometimes do things to hurt me. Some even have a really bad temper. Others pretend to be nice, but they're just faking it. But I'm learning to make good choices, Father! I want to have friends who treat others kindly and who help me grow in my faith. Would You bring new friends like this into my life, Lord? I really need them. Please send me strong guys who will bring out the best in me. I want my relationships to be healthy, Lord, and I want to be the very best friend I can possibly be to others. Amen.



*Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.*

COLOSSIANS 4:6 NLT



## PEER PRESSURE

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Dear Lord, I need to talk to You about something. It's something kind of hard. There's stuff going on at school and in my neighborhood. Kids are doing things they shouldn't. And they're trying to talk me into doing the wrong thing too. I don't want to go along with them—I really don't—but sometimes they almost convince me. I know in my heart that it's a bad choice, but I don't want my friends to hate me or kick me out of the group. Today I'm asking You to give me the courage to stand up to them and to be brave. I want to be strong enough to say no to the things that make You sad. What You think about me is so much more important than what my friends think, Father. May I never forget that. Amen.



*Live wisely among those who are not believers,  
and make the most of every opportunity.*

COLOSSIANS 4:5 NLT



## FRIEND ENVY

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I'll admit it, Lord—sometimes I get jealous. In fact, I get so green with envy that I end up angry. Sometimes I'm jealous when my friends hang out with each other but don't include me. Other times I'm jealous because my friend is super-talented, and I don't feel talented at all. I don't like that feeling. Sometimes I wish I had the kind of life that others have. I envy their homes, cars, or vacations. But then You remind me that I'm already blessed. I have all I need and more. There's no point in being jealous of others. I'm grateful for that reminder, Lord, because I don't want to be envious. Help me, please. Amen.



*Anger is cruel and fury overwhelming,  
but who can stand before jealousy?*

PROVERBS 27:4 NIV



## THEY'RE PICKING ON ME

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It doesn't feel good when people make fun of me, Lord. It hurts my feelings. Sometimes they're joking around. I get that. But that doesn't make it hurt any less. When people say rude things about my hair, my skin, my shoes, my clothes, or the house I live in. . .it really bothers me. When they comment on my grades or my habits, it stings. Help me forgive those people. And may I never be like that! I don't ever want to be the sort of person who makes fun of others or deliberately hurts them. When I see someone struggling to fit in, help me be a friend to the friendless. May everyone know that I care about others. Amen.



*“But I say to you, Love your enemies and  
pray for those who persecute you.”*

MATTHEW 5:44 ESV



## PRAYING FOR YOUR ENEMIES

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I don't like having enemies, Lord. In fact, I never thought I would have any. But some of the people I thought I could trust—my friends—have turned out to be enemies. I call them “frenemies,” because they still pretend to be my friend some of the time. Today I choose to pray for those who have hurt me. I forgive the ones who've done bad things to me or spoken mean words. Even if we never become true friends, I pray that the bitterness will end. Show us how to treat each other kindly. I know that You prayed for Your enemies, Jesus. If You can do it—especially after how they treated you—then I can too! Amen.



*Let love be your guide. Christ loved us and offered his life for us as a sacrifice that pleases God.*

EPHESIANS 5:2 CEV



## GIRLS WHO ARE FRIENDS

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Sometimes girls drive me crazy. They're so... different. I don't get them at all. Then, other times, I feel a little jealous. Girls seem to have it easier in many ways. All they have to worry about is goofy stuff like how to wear their hair or how stylish their clothes are. They don't get picked on as much or have to deal with bullies like boys do. At least that's how it seems to me. Some of my friends are really starting to like girls, Lord. They have crushes. I'm glad I don't have to worry about that for a while. I can be friends with a girl, but crushing on her can wait! In the meantime, help me have good relationships with the girls—sisters, cousins, friends, classmates—in my life. Amen.



*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

GENESIS 1:27 ESV



## BULLIES

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They drive me nuts, Lord! Those bullies are a pain. They make life so hard, not just for me, but for my friends and family too. Why do they always act like they're better than others? Why do they push people around? Lord, today I choose to forgive the bullies. I release my resentment of them and trust You to do a work in them. Change them from the inside out. Where there is hatred, teach them to love. Where there is anger, give them peace. In other words, change their hearts, Lord. Show them that they can live good, happy lives without causing pain to others. Thank You in advance. Amen.



*Don't take part in doing those worthless things that are done in the dark. Instead, show how wrong they are. It is disgusting even to talk about what is done in the dark.*

EPHESIANS 5:11–12 CEV



## ||| FAMILY |||

Parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins. . . you're part of a great big family. God didn't place you where you are by accident. Nope! He knew exactly what He was doing! Whether they're goofy, cranky, or wacky, your family members are your people, and they adore you.

### THE FAMILY YOU'RE IN

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You created families, Lord! What a cool idea! You decided there should be moms, dads, brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, and uncles. You were especially creative when You thought up grandparents! Sometimes I wonder how I ended up in the family I'm in. I feel different from the others. But You put me here on purpose. I'm surrounded by exactly the right people, even when it doesn't feel like it. Today, please be with people who don't have families— elderly people, orphans, and widows. Show us who we can “adopt” into our family today. Amen.



*God sets the lonely in families.*

PSALM 68:6 NIV



## PARENTS

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Lord, I think it's so cool that You decided to place kids in families. If I didn't have a mom or dad, who would have changed my diaper when I was little? Who would have fed me? You gave those jobs to people who love me and want to see me grow up healthy and strong. Have I thanked You lately for my parents? I don't always act like I'm grateful for them, but I am! They do so much for me—they make sure I have a safe place to live, a bed, good food, and clothes to wear. They work hard so that I can have a good life. I'm learning as I watch them. One day I want to be a great parent too. And by the way, thanks for being the very best Dad ever, Lord. Amen!



*Children, you belong to the Lord, and you do the right thing when you obey your parents. The first commandment with a promise says, “Obey your father and your mother, and you will have a long and happy life.”*

EPHESIANS 6:1–3 CEV



## GRANDPARENTS

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I'm pretty crazy about my grandparents, Lord! It's not just because they sometimes let me get away with things my parents don't. Okay, in all honesty, they do go easier on me! It's mostly because they love hanging out with me. We do such fun things together—play games, go to the park, go out to eat—lots of stuff that makes me happy. Mostly, I love talking to them. Their stories are the best! When they start talking about the things they did when they were kids, I feel like I'm watching a movie. Maybe one day I'll be a grandparent and I'll have cool stories to tell. How awesome would that be? If that happens, I hope I'm as much fun as my grandparents are right now. Thanks for giving them to me, Lord. Amen.



*Grandchildren are the crown of the aged,  
and the glory of children is their fathers.*

PROVERBS 17:6 ESV



## SIBLINGS

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Brothers and sisters can be a real pain. Sometimes they get on my nerves, Lord. Other times they're pretty cool. We play together and get into mischief together, and we're growing up together. I don't know why You chose to place me in the family You did, but it's been pretty exciting. Help me to be the best brother I can be—to my real brothers and sisters and to those who are so close they're almost like family. I want to love others the way You do, Lord. I want to put their needs before my own. This is hard, but I want to give it my best shot. I'll need Your help if I'm going to succeed. May I win the Brother of the Year award! Amen.



*Love each other like brothers and sisters. Give each other more honor than you want for yourselves.*

ROMANS 12:10 NCV



## BLENDED FAMILIES

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You sure know how to bring people together, Lord! You can take broken families and mend them. You can bring in new brothers and sisters—halves and steps—and make them all whole. You love when we all live together in peace and harmony. Today I pray for everyone I know in a blended family, with new sisters, brothers, mothers, or fathers. May they all feel a sense of love and belonging. And thank You, Lord, for making us all part of Your family—no matter who we are, where we come from, or what we look like. That makes me happy! Thank You. Amen.



*We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.*

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3 ESV



## CHURCH

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A good church is like a family, isn't it, Lord? I have brothers and sisters (and tons of parents!) at my church. I'm surrounded on every side. There are people who love me like one of their own, and that feels so good. I love hanging out with the people at church because we can all worship You as one big happy family. And my church is a great community. I feel safe when I'm spending time with people there. Thanks for adding to the family, Lord. Amen.



*And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

HEBREWS 10:24–25 ESV



## DIVORCE

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Father, I've seen it so many times: Parents splitting up. Kids getting hurt. Being caught in the middle. It's a terrible thing to have to divide your heart. Today I pray for every friend or loved one who's been through a divorce. For every child who's feeling guilty, who thinks it might be his or her fault, show them it's not. Heal every broken heart. Mend the hurt places. Give peace. Let them know that this isn't the end of a relationship with Mom or Dad, just the beginning of a new and different one. You can mend anything, Lord, even a heart shattered by divorce. Thank You for caring about parents and kids dealing with divorce. Amen.



*Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.*

ECCLESIASTES 4:9–12 ESV



## ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY

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I hear that expression a lot, Lord—“one big happy family.” Only, we’re not always happy. Seems like someone’s always upset or mad. One kid is jealous of the other. Mom’s frustrated. Dad’s tired from working all day. We have days that totally stink! Then on other days, everything goes right. My brothers and sisters are in a good mood, Mom has a smile on her face, and Dad is happy to have a day off from work. In good times and bad, I know You’re there for us, Lord. And in spite of any rough days, we really are one big happy family. . . because we have each other. Thanks for sticking with us, Lord. Amen.



*“Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.”*

GENESIS 28:14 ESV





## DON'T MESS WITH MY FAMILY!

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I'll admit it, Lord—I don't like people messing with my family. When bullies start picking on my brother or sister, I get mad. And when my mom is crying because someone hurt her feelings, I just want to come out swinging. I want to protect those I love. I know You understand how I feel. You're the best protector of all! You don't like people messing with Your kids. You love and defend us whenever we're in trouble. Help me not to lose my temper or do the wrong thing when I'm upset. I want to show love, even to those who pick on us, so that they can see Your light shining through my life. Help me, I pray. Amen.



*Say to your brothers, "You are my people,"  
and to your sisters, "You have received mercy."*

HOSEA 2:1 ESV