

*Back to School for Teachers: New Steps ~ New Ways to Pray*

**To cope with uncertainty and unfamiliarity with God-confidence.**

1. To know security: “I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.” Isaiah 42:16 NIV
2. To not be afraid: For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. 2 Timothe 1:7 NLT

3. To have God's protection especially in our health crisis: "But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high." Psalm 3:3 NIV

4. To know they will have grace for every situation: "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed." 2 Corinthians 9:8 NASB

5. To trust God for direction: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3: 5-6 NIV

6. To know God's strength and help: The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving. Psalm 28:7 NLT

**To maintain focus on life-giving places:**

7. To think positively: “Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” Philippians 4:8 NIV

8. To remember and be encouraged by God's love and faithfulness: "Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man." Proverbs 3:2-4 NIV

9. To be prayerful and thankful: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;" 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV

**Personally:**

10. To guard their heart and be a model: "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it". Proverbs 4:20 NIV

11. To pray for herself and her students: “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” Ephesians 6:18 NIV

12. To remember a pleasant and cheerful heart can change a classroom and a perspective: “A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.” Proverbs 17:22 NIV

13. To not be anxious: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God.” Phil. 4:6 NIV

14. To develop contentment: “I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. Phil. 4:11 NIV

15. To be in good health: “Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.” 3 John 1:2 ESV

16. To promote godly character: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23 ESV

17. To have the strength they need: “He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.” Isaiah 40:29 NIV

18. To have peace at home and at school: “You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.” Isaiah 26:3 | NIV

19. To take anxiety to the Lord: “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7 NIV

20. To know God will carry them throughout the day. “I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13 NIV

## **Relationships:**

21. To be supportive of other teachers and students: “Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.” Philippians 2:4 NASB

22. To promote sweetness: Pleasant words are a honeycomb: sweet to the taste and health to the body Proverbs 16:24 HCSB



## **Attitudes and communication:**

23. To know joy and peace: “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” Romans 15:13 ESV

24. To know even in challenging times, God is building their character: “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” James 1:2-4 ESV

25. To cultivate gratitude: “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.” Psalm 136:1 NIV

## **Their students:**

26. To see each child as unique with different gifts and needs. “You alone created my inner being. You knitted me together inside my mother. I will give thanks to you because I have been so amazingly and miraculously made.” Psalm 139:13-14 GW

27. To seek wisdom in decisions and interactions: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." James 1:5, ESV

## **Their schedule and daily planning:**

28. To persevere in their work, know there will be a reward. “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9 ESV

29. Difficulties and disappointments come, but God weaves everything together for my good: “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28 ESV

30. To remember every day there are handcrafted mercies for them and God is faithful: “The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.” Lamentations 3:22-23 NLT

31. To have discernment: “Teach me good judgment and discernment, for I rely on Your commands.” Psalm 119:66 HCSB

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