

40 DAYS OF GRACE

Family Prayers for

Lent



40 DAYS OF GRACE: Family Prayers for *Lent*

The season of Lent is the 40 weekdays before Easter, beginning with Ash Wednesday. (With Sundays, there are actually 47 days of Lent this year.) During Lent we think about the gift of grace God gives through his Son, Jesus. Jesus gave up everything—even his life—so that people can receive and enjoy God’s love and grace.

Here’s a simple way for your family to think about Jesus during this Lenten season: as you say grace!

Perhaps your family “says grace” or prays before you eat a meal. When we say grace, we acknowledge and thank God for his good gifts. As you do so this Lenten and Easter season, use these 40 Days of prayer for families to help you remember and celebrate God’s grace.

You’ll pray “grace” each day leading up to Easter. Each prayer is based on a verse from the Bible. Sometimes you’ll simply pray the words in the verse, and other times your prayer will help you understand and apply the words of the verse to your everyday lives. You may pray together or take turns praying each day.

WEEK ONE



MARCH 5: Dear Jesus, help us “love each other like you have loved us” (John 13:34). Amen.

MARCH 6: Dear Jesus, thanks for showing us your love when you... (Take turns saying good things Jesus does for you.) Amen.

MARCH 7: Dear Jesus, we’re thinking about these people who need your help. (Take turns naming people who are sick or in need.) Please help them trust and rest in your love for them. Amen.

MARCH 8: Dear Jesus, please help and bless these people we love. (Take turns naming people you love.) Amen.

MARCH 9: Dear Jesus, help us “love each other like you have loved us” (John 13:34). Amen.

WEEK TWO



MARCH 10: Dear God, thanks for loving the world so much, that you “gave your one and only Son” (John 3:16). Amen.

MARCH 11: Thank you, God, for these beautiful things in our world. (Take turns mentioning your favorite things God made.) Amen.

MARCH 12: Dear Jesus, when we believe in you, we won’t die, but we’ll “have everlasting life” (John 3:16). It’s all hard to understand sometimes, but we’re grateful and we trust you. Amen.

MARCH 13: Dear Jesus, thank you for these friends who help us love and trust in you. (Take turns naming Christian friends and family members.) Amen.

MARCH 14: Dear God, thanks for sending your Son, Jesus, “not to judge the world, but to save the world through him” (John 3:17). Amen.

MARCH 15: Dear Jesus, please help these people love and trust in you. (Take turns naming people who aren’t yet friends with God.) Amen.

MARCH 16: Dear God, thanks for loving the world so much, that you “gave your one and only Son.” Jesus, thanks that when we believe in you, we have everlasting life (John 3:16). Amen.

WEEK THREE



MARCH 17: Dear God, you are good. You're a "strong refuge when trouble comes" (Nahum 1:7). Amen.

MARCH 18: Thank you, God, for the good things you give us. Things like... (Take turns saying one good thing God has given your family.) Amen.

MARCH 19: Thank you, God, for good things that happened today. Things like... (Take turns saying good things that happened today.) Amen.

MARCH 20: Dear God, you are good. You're a "strong refuge when trouble comes" (Nahum 1:7). Amen.

MARCH 21: Dear God, thanks for our home. It's a refuge—a safe place for us. Please help those who need a home or safe place to go. Help and protect them. Amen.

MARCH 22: Dear God, please strengthen us as we face this tough stuff. (Take turns something what's troubling you.) Amen.

MARCH 23: Dear God, you are good. You're a "strong refuge when trouble comes" (Nahum 1:7). Amen.

WEEK FOUR



MARCH 24: Dear God, you are “merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry, and filled with unfailing love” (Psalm 145:8). Thank you. Amen.

MARCH 25: Dear God, thanks for people who show us your love. People like... (Take turns naming people who love you.) Amen.

MARCH 26: Dear God, thanks for your patience with us. We needed your patience today when... (Take turns confessing times today when you needed to be patient.) Thanks for your help. Amen.

MARCH 27: Dear God, you are “merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry, and filled with unfailing love” (Psalm 145:8). Thank you. Amen.

MARCH 28: Dear God, we feel compassion for people who are going through a hard time. People like... (Take turns naming people who are sick or in need.) May your love comfort and help them. Amen.

MARCH 29: Dear God, thanks for your mercy and forgiveness. We silently think of times we weren't very merciful and forgiving today. (Pause for a moment.) Please help us love and forgive. Amen.

MARCH 30: Dear God, you are “merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry, and filled with unfailing love” (Psalm 145:8). Thank you. Amen.

WEEK FIVE



MARCH 31: Dear Jesus, thanks for saving us, “not because of the righteous things we’ve done, but because of your mercy” (Titus 3:5). Amen.

APRIL 1: Dear Jesus, thanks for helping us make right choices today. Like when we... (Take turns saying a good choice you or someone in your family made.) Amen.

APRIL 2: Dear Jesus, we need your help with these things that are on our minds. (Take turns mentioning things you need help with or saved from.) Amen.

APRIL 3: Dear Jesus, thanks for saving us, “not because of the righteous things we’ve done, but because of your mercy” (Titus 3:5). Amen.

APRIL 4: Dear Jesus, we pause to think of times we made some not-so-great choices today. (Pause.) Thanks for your mercy and forgiveness. Amen.

APRIL 5: Dear God, we praise you for so many things! (Take turns saying things you thank God for.) Most of all, we thank you for your Son, Jesus. Amen.

APRIL 6: Dear Jesus, thanks for saving us, “not because of the righteous things we’ve done, but because of your mercy” (Titus 3:5). Amen.

WEEK SIX



APRIL 7: Dear Jesus, you are “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). You’ve made a way for us to be children of God. Thank you! Amen.

APRIL 8: Dear Jesus, we have some choices to make. (Take turns mentioning a big or little choice you face.) We trust that you’re with us and will show us the way to go. Amen.

APRIL 9: Dear Jesus, we love you. We know these things are true about you. (Take turns saying something true about Jesus.) Amen.

APRIL 10: Dear Jesus, you are “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). You’ve made a way for us to be children of God. Thank you!

APRIL 11: Dear Jesus, these are our favorite things that happened today. (Take turns saying a favorite part of the day.) Thanks for the forever life you’ve given us. Amen.

APRIL 12: Father God, may we enjoy being your children today. Thank you for each person in our family. Thank you for... (Name each person in your family.) Amen.

APRIL 13: Dear Jesus, you are “the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). You’ve made a way for us to be children of God. Hosanna!

WEEK SEVEN



APRIL 14: “Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone” (Psalm 33:22). Amen.

APRIL 15: Dear God, thanks for things in our world that remind us of your love for us. Things like... (Take turns mentioning things that make you feel loved.) Amen.

APRIL 16: Dear God, we love you. And we love the things you’ve given us. Things like... (Take turns mentioning something that you love.) Amen.

APRIL 17: “Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone” (Psalm 33:22). Amen.

APRIL 18: Dear Jesus, it’s Good Friday. Thanks for showing us how much God loves us. We love you, too. Amen.

APRIL 19: Dear God, here are things we’re hoping for. (Take turns mentioning a hope you have.) No matter what happens, we trust in your love. Amen.

APRIL 20: Dear Jesus, you are alive! “Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone” (Psalm 33:22). Amen.

