

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

Prayer & Sending Sunday Guide

A simple three-to-five minute worship guide that helps churches pray with purpose and send students living on mission.

Purpose

As another school year begins, churches have a unique opportunity to unite in prayer for every elementary, middle, and high school in their community. This guide is designed to fit naturally within an existing worship service while helping congregations pray intentionally and send students into the new school year encouraged, supported, and living on mission.

At a Glance

- Fits naturally into a three-to-five minute worship segment.
- Can be adapted to the style and tradition of your church.
- Student sending moment is encouraged and can be paired with a separate Students Living on Mission certificate.

Step 1 — Introduce the Invitation

Suggested Pastor Introduction

As another school year begins, students, teachers, administrators, coaches, and families are preparing for a new season. Today we join churches across our state in asking God to bless our schools and bring the hope of Christ to every student.

Step 2 — Pray with Purpose

Lead your congregation in prayer for the following:

Students

Pray that students' hearts will be open to the hope of Christ.

Students Living on Mission

Pray for courage, compassion, wisdom, and natural opportunities to share the hope of Christ.

Teachers & School Staff

Pray for wisdom, strength, encouragement, and favor.

School Leadership

Pray for discernment and godly leadership.

Families

Pray for healthy homes and encouragement throughout the school year.

Peace, Protection & God's Presence

Pray that every campus will experience safety, peace, and opportunities for the Gospel to flourish.

Pastor Tips

- Name the local schools specifically.
- Keep the prayer hopeful, local, and concise.
- Invite the congregation to participate rather than observe.

Step 3 — Sending Students Living on Mission

Invite students, educators, coaches, school staff, and families to stand or come forward if appropriate. Encourage the congregation to extend a hand as a sign of prayerful support.

Sending Challenge

Live boldly for Jesus Christ. Pray faithfully for fellow students, teachers, and school leaders. Share the hope of the Gospel through your words and your life. Encourage other believers and support trusted ministries already serving your campus.

Step 4 — Invite One Next Step

Close with one clear invitation:

- Join a campus Prayer Walk.
- Adopt a local school in prayer.
- Encourage a teacher or school employee.
- Continue praying for one campus throughout the school year.
- Visit BackToSchoolPrayer.org for additional ministry guides and downloadable resources.

Our Prayer

Every school covered in prayer.

Every church engaged on mission.

Every student reached with the hope of Christ.