

# **15 Ways to Make Prayer A Natural Part of Your Everyday Family Life**

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*By Kim Butts*

**1. Help your children to become aware of answered prayer.** Tell them about the times in your life when God has answered your prayers. Encourage them to share when God answers their prayers – even if His answer is not what they wanted or expected. When you have other believers, especially missionaries and full-time Christian workers in your home, ask them to tell you about answered prayers they have experienced. Point out God's answers to your children's prayers – even the smallest requests.

**2. Help your children to see the beauty of God's creation and thank Him for it.** Do not miss opportunities to appreciate His handiwork around you. Take time to point out sunsets and beautiful flowers. Thank God for them right then.

**3. Whenever you see or hear about someone in need, take time to pray about it with your children.** It could be something on the news or in the paper, or something you come across during the course of your day. Teaching them to pray when they see an

accident or when you pass a homeless person could have a lasting influence not only on your children, but on those who are prayed for.

**4. Wrap family traditions or events in special times of prayer.** For example, lay hands on the person with a birthday and bless him or her; thank the Lord for two things that you love about her, etc. When seated at the Thanksgiving meal, go around the table and have each family member pray about what he or she is most thankful for over the past year

**5. Pray blessings over your children.** Lay hands on them at bedtime or at another time when they are hurting in some way, and pray scriptural blessings over them. Numbers 6:24-26 is a good one to memorize: *"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace."*

**6. Teach your children to prayerfully put on the armor of God at the beginning of each new day (Eph. 6:10-18).** Each of us needs to be aware that we are in a spiritual battle and that God has provided us with some very important spiritual equipment with which to protect ourselves and fight Satan. This can be done as a family, but do not ritualize it or make it a legalistic thing.

**7. Have family devotions and prayer time.** While any time is good, early mornings before everyone goes separate ways is probably the best time. This will remind children that God will be with them throughout the day.

**8. Put together a family prayer journal.** Place each family member's picture in it, as well as pictures of your pastor and his family, relatives, unsaved friends, and neighbors. Pray through the album together, and encourage one another to pray individually on a daily basis for those represented.

**9. Teach children to keep a personal prayer journal.** Here they can record personal requests, praises, and answers to prayer.

**10. Develop a missionary prayer notebook.** Place prayer cards or pictures of missionaries your family and/or church support in a three-ring binder with plastic page protectors, colorful paper, etc. Include pages with pockets for recent newsletters, prayer needs, e-mail messages, etc. Pray through the notebook on a regular basis. Help your children make the connection between prayer and saving the lost. Pray together that the Lord of the harvest (Matt. 9:38) would send workers into His harvest fields.

**11. Adopt a people group to pray for** – perhaps one of the unreached groups of the 10/40 Window. Pray for your people group daily, research its needs, and be open to what God will do through your family.

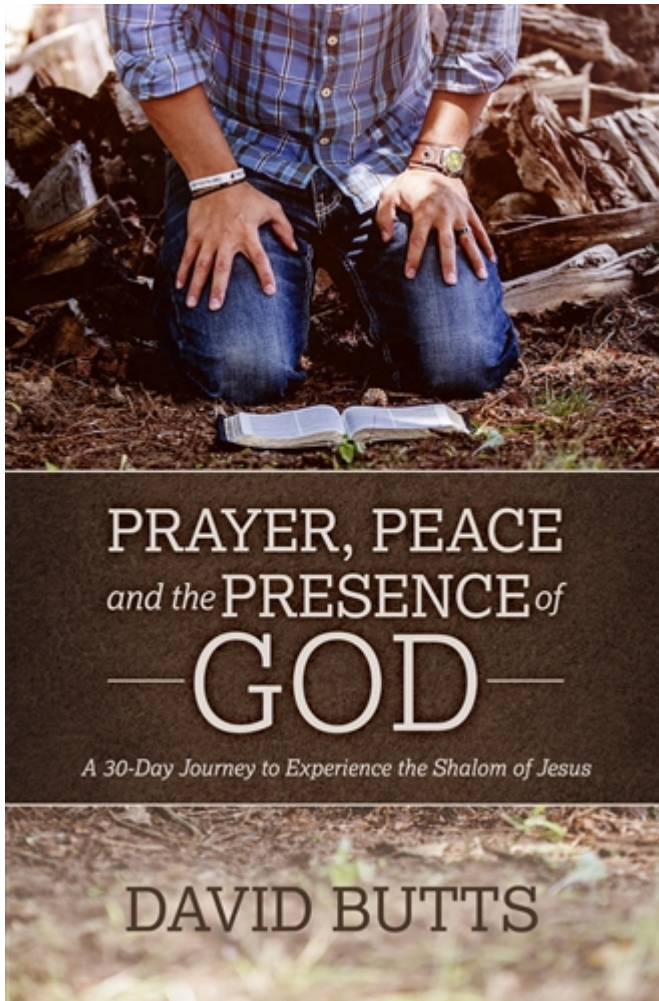
**12. Develop a family prayer calendar each month.** Take turns, or do it together. Put each family event or activity on the calendar, so it can be prayed for.

**13. Go on a prayerwalk in your neighborhood.** Pray for all the families that live around you.

**14. Adopt a leader to pray for.** Adopt a local, state, or national political leader, and pray for and communicate with this leader for at least one year.

**15. Participate as a family in prayer events.** Join with other believers for the National Day of Prayer (first Thursday in May), Global Day of Prayer, Praying Through the Window, etc. Encourage your junior high or senior high school children to take part in See You at the Pole.

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## **PRAYER, PEACE, and the PRESENCE of GOD by David Butts**

As believers, we are supposed to walk in the peace of Christ, yet we all have stressful issues and circumstances that rob us of this peace. Subtitled “A 30-Day Journey to Experience the Shalom of Jesus,” *Prayer, Peace and the Presence of God* powerfully encourages the reader on how to hold onto that peace in any circumstance.

The author, David Butts (1953-2022), started writing this book and 10 days into it he got word that he was in stage 4 with a rare form of lymphoma. God allowed him to live in a greater way for five additional years of full-strength ministry. Dave has challenged readers in *Prayer, Peace and the Presence of God* to seek after His best life, no matter what it holds.

His 30-day devotional will encourage, inspire and challenge you that you, too, can experience and walk in the peace of Jesus no matter what circumstances you are walking through.

[Learn more about purchasing this book here](#)

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## **Sign Up for Prayer Tip Tuesday**

Each week we will email you some short tips and a resource to encourage and challenge you to go deeper in prayer.

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