Prayer Guide for Christian Educators and Schools

Strengthened *as One*



"**I pray that *out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you*** with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, **being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, *to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ***."

Ephesians 3:16-18

March 2, 2027 | acsi.org/day-of-prayer | #SchoolsThatPray



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Letter from the President

Thank you for downloading the 2027 ACSI Day of Prayer Guide.

One of the greatest joys of serving as ACSI President & CEO has been traveling around the world and witnessing believers worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Recently, I had the opportunity to pray with students and educators at Central Christian Academy in South Korea. I smiled as I watched boys and girls raise their hands to God in worship. Scripture tells us that the prayers of the saints rise like sweet incense before heaven's throne (Psalm 141:2; Revelation 5:8). I believe our worship brings joy to the Father because, regardless of age, language, or culture, the Holy Spirit unites us as ONE in Christ.

The ACSI Global Day of Prayer advances Christ-centered education by setting aside intentional time to seek God's face for every area of our lives and school communities.

Together, we are strengthened as one.

This year's theme passage, Ephesians 3:16-18, records Paul's powerful prayer for the church in Ephesus. It is a rich passage that this guide will help unpack as you prepare to pray for Christ-centered education on March 2, 2027.

One biblical commentator described God's love this way:

- Wide enough to include every person
- Long enough to endure all eternity
- Deep enough to reach the worst sinner
- High enough to bring us to heaven

The Ephesian church is the same one Jesus addresses in Revelation 2. He affirms their hard work and perseverance while calling believers to return to their first love and renew their devotion to Him. Let this be our declaration: to spark a renewed passion for Christ and His people through intentional conversation with our faithful Father!

Friends, whatever you are facing personally or whatever lies ahead for your school community, His love has no end. This kind of love in Greek is agape, which is both unconditional and intentional. Let us pray Paul's prayer together, asking God to strengthen us as one and to fill us with a love for one another that flows from the love Jesus Christ has shown each of us.

Our Ministry Team has developed practical ideas and resources in this guide to help your school plan, promote, and participate in the ACSI Global Day of Prayer on March 2, 2027. I look forward to hearing how God moves on your campus and in the lives of the students He has entrusted to your care.



Praying for you and with you,

Larry Taylor, Ph.D.

ACSI President & CEO

(SOURCE: https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/ephesians-3/)



Day of Prayer Theme | Strengthened as One

What if the greatest need in our schools is not another program, plan, or strategy, but a deeper dependence on Jesus?
This is the heart of the **ACSI Global Day of Prayer**. On this day, Christian schools around the world are invited to set aside time to pray, not simply as individual schools or individuals, but as part of a global community of believers seeking God together.

Our theme, **Strengthened as One**, comes from Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:16-18. He writes,

> "I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

The context of Paul's prayer is that the family of Christ, throughout all generations and locations, would be strengthened as one body through the power of the Spirit.

This prayer reminds us that our strength does not come from ourselves, the growth of our schools, the vibrancy of our programs, or the resources we have attained. Rather, we are reminded that we are strengthened with power ***through the Spirit of God***. As we pray, the Spirit forms us, aligns us, unites us, and then moves us to faithful action. There is great encouragement in knowing that when we pray, we are praying alongside other brothers and sisters in Christ who are scattered throughout the world.

Through prayer, we are ***strengthened as one***.

As we consider our theme for this year, there are a few striking images that come to mind.

The first is the battle formation of the ancient Greek and Roman armies, known as the phalanx. Soldiers would stand and advance in a tight, cohesive unit with their shields interlocked to defend against enemy attacks. As long as each soldier remained connected to his fellow soldier, this formation was impenetrable to the enemy. The same is true for the body of Christ. Recount Paul's words in Ephesians 6 as He exhorts the body of Christ to ***put on the full armor of God***. As each follower of Christ actively puts on this armor, there is the implicit understanding that each soldier walks side by side and front to back with their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, strengthening one another in the battle. Paul's final charge to the Christian community is to pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication… making supplication for all the saints.

We are strengthened together in prayer.

Second is the image of a tapestry. An artist meticulously weaves in and out various kinds and colors of thread that bind together to make a beautiful masterpiece. But perspective is everything when viewing a tapestry. While the front side reveals a beautiful picture, the back side of a tapestry reveals a mess of threads. Like a tapestry, our lives and communities may sometimes look messy from our perspective, yet God sees what we cannot see. As the master weaver, He carefully and purposefully is at work, weaving our individual stories into something that transforms us and brings Him glory. It is through prayer that we are invited into this work, where He forms and shapes us according to His good and sovereign plan.

We are woven together in prayer.

The last image is more of a description of what takes place during this Global Day of Prayer. Reflect on all the things that cause separation between us: geography, culture, language, or circumstance. As you visualize these lines of separation, consider that there is a common thread moving through each person, connecting each of us to one another. A common thread that weaves through the obstacles of separation. A common thread that cannot be stopped by walls of division or geographical distance. A common thread that is the Lord Jesus Christ and the unity of the Spirit.

Herein reveals the beauty and importance of this Global Day of Prayer. When one school prays for another, or when one school community lifts up Christian educators in another nation, or when one student prays for students they may never meet, those prayers bring unity, and the thread is strengthened.

We are connected in prayer.

So, on this ACSI Global Day of Prayer, let's commit to pray with and for one another, that we may be strengthened as one through the power of the Spirit!

Although we are many, we pray as one, strengthened by the One *from* whom and *through* whom and *for* whom are all things.

"To Him be the glory forever! Amen." Romans 11:3





Ways To Make This Day Special For Christian Educators and Schools

Timeline for Planning and Promoting the Day of Prayer

STEP 1:

As You Begin and Step

- ☐ Pray for what your school should do.
- ☐ Appoint a **prayer coordinator** (or form a committee) to champion your school-wide DOP.
- ☐ Review and download event materials at www.acsi.org/day-of-prayer.
- ☐ Delegate responsibilities and assign task deadlines.

STEP 2:

Now-February

Plan Day of Prayer Activities

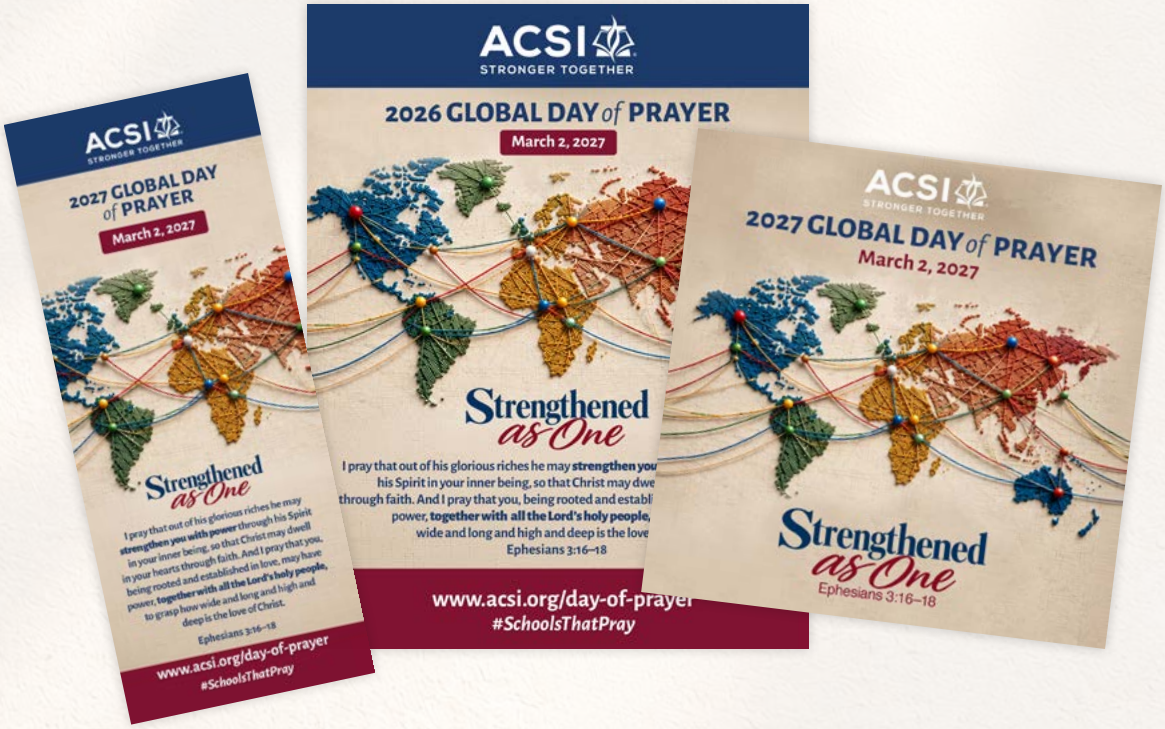
- ☐ Plan your day's event experience. Use the ACSI prayer guide and resources to assist you! Sample ideas: ***(see Additional Resources at www.acsi.org/day-of-prayer)***
- ☐ School-Wide Plan – Determine how you'll use the ACSI prayer guide and prayer prompts (or create your own), choose age-appropriate engagement activities, elevate and communicate your plan with staff and students, plan a school-wide event (all-school worship, prayer walk, use ACSI Interactive Prayer Map).
- ☐ Divisional Plan – Plan a chapel with a prayer emphasis; designate prayer activities in the classrooms or in advisory groups.
- ☐ Utilize the Day of Prayer Map to input prayer needs and pray for other schools.
- ☐ Seek support and approval for any activities from your administration.
- ☐ Gain support and involvement from your leadership, staff, and families by communicating details about the day. Sample email ideas:
  (Templates included in Additional Resources at www.acsi.org/day-of-prayer)
  - Leadership and Staff Email – Describe and elevate the importance of prayer and the prayer theme; include the Day of Prayer Guide, details for the all-school event and/or divisional plans, engagement activities, interactive prayer map, and parent at-home participation guide.

- Student Email – Describe and elevate the importance of prayer and the prayer theme; include a tool in which students can submit prayer requests confidentially, the day of the event schedule, the prayer guide and engagement activities, and an explanation of the parent at-home participation guide.
- Parent/Guardian/Grandparent Email – Describe and elevate the importance of prayer, the prayer theme, and the school plan for students; include prayer prompts or a guide and question prompts for discussion at home. This is a great time to invite parents to join you on campus or to send something home that equips them to pray with their children.

Promote Day of Prayer Activities

Once you have an internal plan, consider the following ways to let your external school community know about the day:

- ☐ Encourage teachers to weave the concept of prayer throughout the day's academic activities by providing a plan and resources.
- ☐ Download and print promotional and event materials as needed to help you promote and prepare for this day within your school community. Resources include posters, bulletin inserts, social media graphics, a bookmark, videos, and presentation slides.
- ☐ Gather local prayer requests.
- ☐ Consider how to include local churches, parents, or alumni in the promotion and involvement of this day.
- ☐ Be prayerful as you plan details.



STEP 3:

Day of the Event – March 2, 2027

- ☐ Consider ways to set the day apart, such as showing school unity by dressing in school colors.
- ☐ Utilize the **Day of Prayer Map** to input prayer needs and pray for other schools.
- ☐ Document the day through social media using the hashtag **#SchoolsThatPray.**
- ☐ Collect testimonials on what the day means to each person. Post those with permission at www.acsi.org/day-of-prayer.



Strengthened as One

Day of Prayer Guide

Prayer is the practice of an intimate communication with God, our Father. The purpose of prayer is not to have our needs met or our requests answered but to be formed and aligned to God's good and perfect will for us.

As we join as a global community, consider these areas of prayer inspired by the Lord's Prayer:

Adoration: *Hallowed Be Your Name*

Before we ask of God, we pause to worship Him.

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name." (Matthew 6:9)

"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable." (Psalm 145:3)

"Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness." (Psalm 29:2)

- Worship God for who He is – *Take a moment to reflect on the attributes and character of God – His love, power, holiness, faithfulness, and sovereignty.*
- Praise God for His work among the nations through Christian education – *Reflect on the ways He has transformed your own life and your school community.*
- Remember the works of God – *Thank Him for being the source of every opportunity, resource, and blessing.*

Expectation: *Your Kingdom Come*

Pray boldly, trusting God to accomplish His purposes.

"Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22–23)

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21)

- God invites us to pray with faith and anticipation – *Take a few moments to pray boldly for students, schools, educators, families, and communities to be transformed through Christ-centered education.*

- God invites us to pray in alignment with His will – *Ask God to have His way in your life and the lives of students, schools, educators, families, and communities throughout the world.*
- God invites us to pray with an attitude of trust and hopeful expectation – *Ask God to provide access to Christian education for every child and for doors to be open for gospel proclamation even in the darkest of places.*

Submission: *Your Will Be Done*

Pray with our expectations surrendered to His will.

"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)

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up." (James 4:10)

"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." (Luke 22:42)

- Prayer is more about surrendering our will to God than having our needs met – *Ask the Spirit to reveal those areas of your life that you are holding back from Him and lay them down at the feet of Jesus.*
- Walking in humility reflects the nature and character of Christ – *Ask the Lord to grow humility in every area and ministry of your school and your community.*
- Prayer teaches us to embrace our own weakness and walk in the strength of the Lord – *Ask the Lord to provide you, your school, and your community with the strength to accomplish His will.*

Dependence: *Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread*

Depend on Him.

"Give us today our daily bread." (Matthew 6:11)

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33)

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." (Philippians 4:19–20)

- God faithfully provides us with everything we need – *Take a few moments to thank God for His daily provision and care in all the areas of your life, your school, and community.*
- We serve a faithful God who hears us when we pray – *Take some time to pray for any personal concerns or needs in your own life. Fervently ask God to meet the needs of your school and community. Write down or speak aloud specific requests to the Lord.*
- Here are some specific ways that you can pray for your school and other ACSI schools around the world:

- Ask God to ***advance*** the Kingdom of God through Christian education:
    1. Pray for the gospel to transform the hearts and minds of students worldwide.
    2. Ask God to equip educators to teach with truth, courage, and biblical conviction.
    3. Pray for the raising up of godly leaders and teachers who will disciple the next generation.
    4. Ask for wisdom in strategic planning to strengthen Christian education globally.

- Ask God to provide ***access*** to Christian education for every child:
    1. Pray for open doors in nations where Christian schools face opposition.
    2. Ask God to provide scholarships and resources for children in need.
    3. Pray for creativity in delivering Christian education in hard-to-reach places.
    4. Ask God to remove barriers so more families can choose Christ-centered schools.

- Ask God for ***advocates*** for Kingdom education:
    1. Pray for local churches to partner with and champion Christian schools.
    2. Ask God to raise up advocates in government and policy to protect educational freedom.
    3. Pray that community leaders would see the eternal value of Christ-centered education.



Strengthened as One

Younger Student Prayer Guide

Use these simple activities to help students learn four ways we can come to God in prayer: **Adoration, Expectation, Submission, and Dependence.** Choose one or several activities that fit your class and the time you have available. These can be used in the classroom, in morning meetings, in chapel follow-up, or throughout the school day.

*We encourage you to use the **ACSI Prayer Map** with your students so they can pray for Christian schools and students around the world.*

ADORATION: Hallowed Be Your Name

Look Up

Adoration is praising God for who He is. Help students begin by focusing on who God is. Give them simple ways to praise Him for His character, goodness, and love.

SCRIPTURE:

- **"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name." (Matthew 6:9)**
- **"For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible." (Colossians 1:16)**
- **"The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing." (Psalm 23:1)**

PROMPTS:

- Praise God for being our loving Father who cares for us.
- Thank God for being our Creator and for everything He has made.
- Praise God for being our Shepherd who leads, cares for, and watches over us.

PRAY:

Give each student paper and crayons or markers. Ask, "What is something true about God?" Students can draw or write words that describe God, such as loving, strong, kind, faithful, holy, Creator, or Shepherd. Invite students to share and complete the sentence together.

Prayer: "God, You are _____, and I praise You because _____."

Teaching Point: Prayer begins by looking up and remembering who God is. We praise God not only for what He does, but for who He is.

EXPECTATION: Your Kingdom Come

Look Ahead

Expectation is not wishful thinking or confidence in our plans. It is confidence in God's character, God's promises, and God's power. Because He is faithful, we can pray boldly. Because His kingdom is advancing, we can pray expectantly. Help students pray and ask God to do what only He can do.

SCRIPTURE:

- **"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22–23)**
- **"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)**
- **"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine." (Ephesians 3:20)**

PROMPTS:

- Thank God that He is faithful and ask Him to help you love Him and obey His commands.
- Ask God to help students, teachers, and families across the world to know and follow Jesus.
- Ask God to help you pray for what lines up with His will and the things He is doing.

PRAY:

Place a small basket or box in the middle of the room. Give each student a paper heart. Ask them to draw or write something they would like to ask God to help with. It could be a friend, family member, school situation, or something that makes them worry. Have students place their hearts in the basket and pray together.

Prayer: "Lord, we bring these things to You because You hear us and You care for us. Help us trust You with everything because You are worthy and Your plans are good."

Teaching Point: We can come to God with confidence. We do not have to carry everything by ourselves.

SUBMISSION: Your Will Be Done

Yield to God

Help students practice bringing their plans, worries, and wants to God and trusting in His His ways.

SCRIPTURE:

- **"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him." (Proverbs 3:5–6)**
- **"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up." (James 4:10)**
- **"He has made everything beautiful in its time." (Ecclesiastes 3:11)**

PROMPTS:

- Give God something you are worried about and ask Him to help you trust Him.
- Ask God to help you choose to follow what He wants you do to and not try to do what you want to do.
- Pray for patience when you have to wait, remembering that God's timing is good.

PRAY:

Have students place their hands open on their laps. Explain that opening our hands can remind us to release what we are holding onto and trust God with it. Lead the class through the prayer below, allowing a quiet pause after each line.

Prayer: "Lord, I give You my day. I give You my plans. I give You my worries. Help me trust you and follow you."

Dependence: Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

Link Arms

Help students understand that we need God every day and that God often cares for us through the people He has placed around us.

SCRIPTURE:

- **"Give us today our daily bread. (Matthew 6:11)**
- **"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength." (Isaiah 40:31)**
- **"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)**

PROMPTS:

- Ask God to give you what you need today and help you trust Him one day at a time.
- Pray for someone who needs strength or encouragement today.
- Ask God to help your class, your school, and Christian schools around the world work together in love and unity.

PRAY:

Use the **ACSI Prayer Map** to choose a Christian school somewhere in the world. Show students where the school is located and share a few simple facts. Then pray for the students, teachers, and families there.

Prayer: "Lord, please be with the students and teachers at this school. Give them strength, wisdom, courage, and joy. Remind them that they are not alone."

Teaching Point: We may live in different places, but we belong to the same family in Christ. We can depend on God together and pray for one another.



A SIMPLE PRAYER RHYTHM FOR THE CLASSROOM AND HOME

Consider teaching students a simple rhythm they can use beyond the Day of Prayer. Encourage them to pause and turn their hearts toward God in the morning, afternoon, and evening.

Morning: Surrender

Start the day by giving it to the Lord.

"Lord, I give You this day. Help me obey Your ways, love others well, and be ready to follow You."

Afternoon: Refocus

Stop for a moment in the middle of the day and turn your attention back to Jesus.

"Jesus, help me remember that You are with me and that You love me. Help me trust You with the rest of my day."

Evening: Give Thanks

Encourage students to use this same rhythm at home.

"Lord, thank You for today. Thank You for the people You gave me and for all the good things You did today. Help me remember Your goodness."



Additional Day of Prayer Classroom Engagement Ideas: Lower School

Designed for teachers to use with their students in Preschool – 3rd/4th grade. These activities can be adapted for different ages and classroom settings. Use the "Strengthened as One" theme to help students see that prayer connects us to God and connects us to one another.

We encourage you to utilize the ACSI Prayer Map with your students so you can pray for Christian schools across the globe.

Woven Together Prayer Chain

Give each student a strip of paper. Ask them to draw or write the name of someone they would like to pray for. It could be a family member, friend, teacher, or another student.

Give students a few quiet moments to pray for that person. Then connect the strips together to make a prayer chain and display it in your classroom.

As you connect the links, remind students:
"One piece by itself is small, but when we are connected, we become something stronger. God has made us part of His family, and He calls us to pray for one another."

Talk about it:
"We are all part of God's family. We can pray for one another, encourage one another, and help one another grow."

Strengthened Together Prayer Hands

Trace each student's hand on a piece of paper. On each finger, have them write or draw someone they want to pray for.

- **Thumb:** My family
- **Pointer finger:** My teachers and leaders
- **Tall finger:** Christians around the world
- **Ring finger:** My friends and classmates
- **Pinky:** Someone who needs help or encouragement

Put the hands together on a bulletin board or wall. Pray through the different groups together as a class.

Talk about it:
"God cares about the people we love and the people we may never meet. We can ask Him to strengthen and care for them."



Build a Prayer Quilt

Give each student a square piece of paper. Ask them to draw one person they want to pray for or one thing they want to thank God for.

Put all the squares together to create a classroom prayer quilt.

As you put the pieces together, talk about how each square is different, but they all belong together.

Talk about it:
"God made each of us different, and He brings us together. We all have a place in His family."

God, Help Me Notice

Ask students to think about someone at school who might need encouragement, a friend who may be having a hard day, or someone who might feel left out.

Pray together:
"Jesus, help me notice people who need Your love. Show me how I can help, encourage, or include someone today."

Then challenge students to look for an opportunity to put their prayer into action. They might invite someone to play, sit with someone at lunch, help a classmate, or simply say something encouraging.

Talk about it:
"Sometimes God answers our prayers by showing us what we can do."

Prayer Circle

Gather students in a circle and invite them to pray together. Start with a simple prayer:
"Lord, strengthen our class."

Then ask students to add a short prayer. Younger students can simply say one word or phrase:

- **"Help us be kind."**
- **"Help us love."**
- **"Give us courage."**
- **"Help us forgive."**
- **"Give us joy."**

Close by praying over the class.
"Lord, thank You for our class. Thank You for bringing us together. Strengthen us by Your Spirit and help us love one another well."

Pray for Our School

Take a short prayer walk around the school. Stop in places such as a classroom, an office, the cafeteria, the gym, the playground, or the chapel. At each stop, ask students who they can pray for there.

For example:

Classroom: "Lord, help us learn and treat one another with kindness."
Office: "Lord, give our leaders wisdom."
Cafeteria: "Thank You for the people who prepare our food and take care of us."
Playground: "Help us be good friends and include others."
Chapel: "Help us listen to You and grow in our faith."

Talk about it:

"We can pray anywhere. God is with us in every part of our school."

Prayer Around the World

Use a globe or world map and choose a Christian school or country from the **ACSI Prayer Wall**.
Show students where the school is and share a few simple facts. Then pray together for the students, teachers, and families there.

"Lord, please be with the students and teachers in _____. Give them strength, wisdom, courage, and joy. Help them know You are with them."

Let students place a sticker, heart, or small prayer symbol on the map.

Talk about it:

"Our classroom is part of something much bigger. There are Christian students and teachers all over the world who need our prayers."

Family Blessing: Take Prayer Home

Invite students to take this activity home and pray a blessing over someone in their family.

Ask them to choose one person and pray:

- **"Lord, strengthen _____."**
- **"Help _____ know Your love."**
- **"Give _____ wisdom and courage."**
- **"Thank You for _____."**

Encourage families to take turns praying for one another.

Talk about it:

"We can pray for our families at school, and we can keep praying when we get home."

Additional Day of Prayer Engagement Ideas: Middle and Upper School

Designed for teachers to use with students in 5th–12th grades within the classroom, advisory, or small group setting. These ideas can be used throughout the school day and adapted to fit your schedule. Use the Day of Prayer Guide to help lead and guide prayer. Use the "Strengthened as One" theme to help students see that prayer connects us to God and connects us to one another.

We would encourage you to utilize the ACSI Prayer Map with your students so you can pray for Christian Schools across the globe.

Teach Students to Pray

Use the **Day of Prayer Guide** to lead students in a time of prayer. As you move through each section, remind them that prayer elevates God to His rightful position and keeps us in a posture of confident surrender to Him. Read the verses in the **Prayer Guide** as you introduce each section of the prayer time. Read the prayer prompts aloud and give students time to pray silently and/or ask for volunteers to pray aloud. This can be a teacher-led or student-led activity.

One Minute. One Person. One Prayer.

Build prayer into an ordinary moment of the school day by inviting students to pause for one minute and pray specifically for one person.



Ask students to consider:

- A classmate
- A teacher, coach, or administrator
- A parent or family member
- Someone who may be struggling
- Someone who does not yet know Jesus
- A school in the area or across the globe from the ACSI prayer map

Say:
"Who is God putting on your heart? Take one minute and pray for that person."

Remind students that prayer does not always require a long period of time. A simple, faithful prayer can become part of the rhythm of an ordinary day.

Pray for the School

Take students on a prayer walk through the places where they live and learn. Choose several locations throughout the school such as classrooms, offices, the gym, the chapel, the cafeteria, the library, the playground, or the entrance..

At each location, pause and ask:
"What happens here, and what do we want God to do here?"

Encourage students to pray for the people who teach, serve, learn, lead, and gather in each space.

Remind students:
"Prayer belongs in every part of our school life because every part of our lives belongs to God."

Scripture to Prayer

Choose a short passage or verse from the Day of Prayer Guide and invite students to turn the words of Scripture into a prayer.

For example, using Ephesians 3:16–18:

- **"Strengthen us with power through your Spirit."**
  "Lord, strengthen our teachers and students by Your Spirit."
- **"Rooted and grounded in love."**
  "Lord, root our school so deeply in Your love that it changes the way we treat one another."

Give students a few moments to create their own prayer from the passage. Remind them:
"We do not have to wonder what to pray. God's Word gives us words to pray."

The Three Daily Pauses

Encourage students to adopt a simple daily rhythm of pausing three times throughout the day to turn their hearts and attention toward the Lord. Each pause offers a different opportunity to surrender, refocus, and give thanks.

Morning: Surrender

Begin the day by surrendering your plans, priorities, and activities to the Lord.

> **"Lord, I give You this day. Guide my thoughts, words, decisions, and actions. Help me see where You are working and give me a willing heart to join You in what You are doing. Use me for Your glory."**

Afternoon: Refocus

Pause in the middle of the day to turn your eyes away from the busyness and back toward Jesus and His goodness.

> **"Jesus, help me fix my eyes on You. Remind me of Your goodness, faithfulness, and presence. Help me trust You with what is still ahead today and reflect Your love to those around me."**

Evening: Give Thanks

End the day by reflecting on God's goodness, giving thanks for the ways He worked throughout the day.

> **"Lord, thank You for this day. Thank You for Your faithfulness, provision, and presence. Help me recognize the ways You were at work today. I give You thanks for every blessing, every lesson, and every opportunity to know and serve You."**

Encourage students to make these **three daily pauses** a regular rhythm at school and at home.

- **Morning: Surrender.**
- **Afternoon: Refocus.**
- **Evening: Give Thanks.**

Remind students:
"A life of prayer is built one pause at a time. As we continually turn our hearts toward the Lord, we learn to walk with Him throughout the day."

"God, What Are You Doing?"

Use prayer as an opportunity for students to practice listening and discernment.

Invite students to spend two quiet minutes before the Lord and consider:

- **"Lord, where are You already at work in our school?"**
- **"Who are You asking me to notice?"**
- **"How are You inviting me to participate?"**

After a few moments of silence, allow students to write down what came to mind or share with the group.
Remind students that prayer is not only bringing our requests to God. Prayer also creates space for us to listen, discern His direction, and respond in faithful obedience.

Global Prayer Connection

Use the **ACSI Global Prayer Map** to help students see that they are part of a worldwide community of Christian schools.

Choose a Christian school or country from the map and share a few simple facts with students. Then invite them to pray.

Ask:

- **"What might this school need prayer for?"**
- **"What might we have in common with these students?"**
- **"How can we pray for them today?"**

Close by reminding students:
"We may be in different places, but we belong to one body. As we pray for one another, we are strengthened as one."

Family Blessing: Take Prayer Home

Invite students to continue the practice of prayer at home by blessing a family member through prayer.

Encourage students to choose one person in their family and ask:
"How can I pray for you today?"

Have them pray a short blessing over that person, asking God to strengthen, encourage, guide, and draw that individual closer to Him.

Provide a simple framework:
"Lord, strengthen _____."
"Help _____ to know Your love and presence."
"Give _____ wisdom and courage."
"Use _____ for Your glory."

Encourage students to make this a simple family rhythm by taking turns praying a blessing over one another.

Remind students:
"Prayer is not just something we do at school. We can carry the gift of prayer into our homes and strengthen one another through prayer."

Maintaining Momentum

Keep Praying

It is exciting to set aside a special day to pray together, but our hope is that the **ACSI Global Day of Prayer** becomes more than one day on the calendar. We pray that it will be a catalyst for a deeper, ongoing commitment to prayer in your school.

As we have been reminded through **Strengthened as One**, we are stronger when we seek the Lord together. Consider ways your school can continue growing as a school that prays:

- **Gather parents to pray.** Invite parents and grandparents to your school for a simple time of prayer. Give them an opportunity to pray for the school, teachers, students, and families, and then send them home with resources and ideas they can use to strengthen prayer in their own homes.
- **Pray for your alumni.** Find simple ways to keep alumni connected through prayer. Let them know how your school is praying for them, and invite them to pray for the school, current students, and the next generation of Christian leaders.
- **Make prayer part of staff life.** Create space for prayer in staff meetings, not simply as the opening or closing prayer. Take time to pray together about specific needs, decisions, students, families, and opportunities the Lord has placed before you.
- **Create school-wide prayer rhythms.** Plan intentional times for your whole school community to pray together throughout the year. This could be part of a back-to-school gathering, spiritual emphasis week, chapel, special prayer gathering, or other significant school moments**.**
- **Develop prayer partners.** Pair students, teachers, staff, or families to pray for one another regularly. This can be a simple and meaningful way to help prayer become part of everyday life.
- **Create a simple prayer rhythm.** Choose a day each week or a time each day to intentionally pray for your school, Christian education, and the work God is doing around the world.
- **Stay connected to another Christian school.** Sign up for the ACSI Online Community to connect with another school and commit to praying for one another throughout the year.
- **Keep the Prayer Map in front of you.** Return to the ACSI Prayer Map *acsi.org/day-of-prayer* throughout the year and pray for schools and educators who may be facing challenges very different from your own.
- **Share what God is doing.** Share prayer stories, ideas, and testimonies with other Christian schools so we can encourage one another and continue to be strengthened as one.

One day of prayer can become a rhythm of prayer. Our hope is that March 2 is not the finish line, but a starting point for a school culture where prayer is woven into the life of the community and where students, staff, and families learn to seek the Lord together.



Additional Resources

RESOURCE:
SAMPLE EMAIL TO SEND TO PARENTS

Dear Parents and Grandparents,

There is something incredibly comforting about knowing someone is praying for you.

As parents and grandparents, we know the joy of praying for the children we love. We pray for their friendships, their decisions, their faith, their safety, and their future. And what a gift it is to be part of a Christian school where we can pray not only for our own children, but also for one another and for Christian schools and families around the world.

On **Tuesday, March 2, 2027**, Christian schools across the globe will come together for the **ACSI Global Day of Prayer**. This year's theme is **Strengthened as One**, based on Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:16–18:

"I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

Paul reminds us that we were never meant to walk alone. We are strengthened by God's Spirit, rooted in His love, and strengthened together as His people.

Want to learn more about this year's theme and why we are praying "Strengthened as One"? [Read more here.]

There are Christian schools around the world where teachers and students are facing challenges very different from our own. Some are serving in places where Christians experience persecution. Some are caring for families facing significant financial needs. Others are faithfully sharing the hope of the gospel in communities where Christ is not yet known. We may be separated by distance, language, culture, or circumstance, but we are connected through Christ.

And we know this: **God is powerful to move and change lives. And yet, He invites us to pray.**

We invite you to join our school community in prayer on March 2. Use the ACSI Prayer Guide to pray for our school, our students and families, Christian educators, and Christian schools around the world.

You can pray as a family at the breakfast table, in the car, before school, at bedtime, or whenever you have a few quiet moments together.

You might even begin a simple rhythm that can continue long after this special day:

- **Morning – Surrender**
  "Lord, I give You this day. Use me for Your purposes and help me follow You."
- **Afternoon – Refocus**
  "Jesus, help me remember Your goodness and turn my eyes back to You."
- **Evening – Give Thanks**
  "Lord, thank You for this day and for the ways You were with me. Help me remember Your faithfulness."

These small moments can become a meaningful rhythm for your family, teaching our children that prayer is not simply something we do at church or on a special day. **Prayer is how we stay connected to Jesus throughout our everyday lives.**

As we join Christian schools around the world on March 2, may our children see what it looks like to pray for others, trust God with what we cannot control, and know that they are part of a much bigger family of believers.

Although we are many, **we pray as one, strengthened by the One.**

Thank you for praying with us and for helping your children grow in their relationship with Jesus.

With gratitude,



RESOURCE:
SAMPLE EMAIL FOR LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

Dear Leadership and Staff,

There is something powerful about knowing someone is praying for you. As a school, we want to be people who pray first, who turn to the Lord before we turn to our own plans, and who trust Him with what we cannot control.

On **Tuesday, March 2, 2027**, Christian schools around the world will join together for the **ACSI Global Day of Prayer**. Because we are an ACSI member school, we have the privilege of being part of this global community of Christian educators, students, and families who are seeking the Lord together.

This year's theme is **Strengthened as One**, from Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:16–18:

"I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ…"

We are reminded that our strength does not come from what we can accomplish on our own. We are strengthened **through the Spirit of God**, rooted in the love of Christ, and strengthened together as His people.

That is why prayer matters so much. We are not only praying as individuals or as one school. We are joining with Christian schools and believers around the world, praying for one another and asking God to work in ways only He can.

As we pray together, we will continue to focus on three key areas:

- **ADVANCING** – Leading Christ-centered education toward excellence and flourishing
- **ACCESS** – Making Christ-centered education available and obtainable
- **ADVOCACY** – Promoting and protecting Christ-centered education for today and tomorrow

How You Can Participate

1. Pray personally.
Set aside intentional time on March 2 to pray for our school, our students and families, Christian educators, and Christian schools around the world. Use the Prayer Guide to help guide your time.

2. Pray with your students.
We are asking each teacher to make space for prayer with your students. The Student Engagement Activities provide simple, age-appropriate ideas you can use in your classroom, small group, advisory, or other appropriate time. You do not need to do everything. Choose what works best for your students and your setting.

3. Pray for another school.
Take time to use the **ACSI Prayer Map** and pray for a Christian school somewhere in the world. Help your students see that we are part of a much larger family and that we can lift up people we may never meet.

How Our School Will Participate

Here is a sample school-wide plan. Please adjust it to reflect your school's plans and opportunities.

Elementary Students

- Plan a time of **organized classroom prayer** using the **Prayer Guide**.
- Use the **Prayer Guide Scripture and engagement activities** with your students and prayer buddies.
- Encourage **corporate or partner prayer** in the classroom.
- Engage with the **ACSI Prayer Map** by praying for another Christian school and the specific needs they have shared.
- Participate in a **morning prayer** led by the principal or school leader.
- **Parent Engagement:** Invite parents, grandparents, and families to join us in prayer using the Prayer Guide and family prayer ideas.

Middle School and Upper School Students

- Include a **Day of Prayer emphasis in chapel** during the week leading up to March 2.
- On **Tuesday, March 2**, following morning announcements, provide time for students to pray in small groups, with prayer partners, or corporately as a class. Use the **Prayer Guide** for Scripture and prayer prompts.
- Encourage students to use the **ACSI Prayer Map** to pray for specific needs shared by Christian schools around the world.
- Invite students to focus their prayers on the three areas of **Advancing, Access, and Advocacy**.
- **Parent Engagement:** Invite parents, grandparents, and families to join us in prayer using the Prayer Guide and family prayer ideas.

Our hope is that this day will not simply be an event on the calendar but a reminder of who we are as a school: **a people who pray first, depend on Jesus, and seek Him together.**

Thank you for helping create space for prayer with your students and for joining us personally on this day of focused prayer. We are strengthened as we pray together, and we are grateful to be part of what God is doing through Christian education around the world.

Although we are many, we pray as one, strengthened by the One.

Grateful to serve and pray with you,

RESOURCE:
SAMPLE SCRIPT FOR CORPORATE PRAYER ANNOUNCEMENT

Morning Announcements
Prayer Time Option: You may choose to make this a true **Day of Prayer** by using the three prayer focuses at different times throughout the day: **Advancing in the morning, Access around midday, and Advocacy before students leave for the day.** Or, you may use all three prayer focuses together during one designated prayer time. Choose what works best for your school and schedule.

Good morning, everyone!

Today is the **ACSI Global Day of Prayer**. Christian schools all around the world are taking time today to pray, and we get to be part of that.

What a gift it is to know that someone is praying for you. Today, we get to pray for one another and for Christian schools, teachers, and students around the world.

Our theme this year is **Strengthened as One**, from Ephesians 3:16–18. Paul prayed that God's people would be **"strengthened with power through His Spirit"** and **"rooted and established in love."**

We may be in different schools, different countries, and different cultures, but we belong to one family through Jesus. Today, we are going to pray together as one.

Our prayers will focus on three areas:

- **ADVANCING**
  Pray that Christ-centered education would continue to grow and flourish, that the gospel would remain at the center, and that more students and families would come to know and follow Jesus.
- **ACCESS**
  Pray that more children and families would have access to Christ-centered education, especially those facing financial hardship, limited opportunities, or persecution.
- **ADVOCACY**
  Pray for wisdom, courage, and protection for Christian schools and educators as they faithfully live out their calling and stand for the truth of God's Word.

You will have opportunities throughout the day to pray in your classrooms. I encourage you to use the Prayer Guide and the **ACSI Prayer Map** as you pray.

Let's be a school that prays today.

SCHOOL PRAYER TIME

ADVANCING

Let's begin by praying for **Advancing**.

Paul reminds us in **Matthew 6:10**, "*Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*"

Let's pray that God's kingdom would advance through Christian education and that the gospel would remain at the center of all we do.

As you pray, think about:

- **The gospel being clearly taught and lived out**
- **Students coming to know and follow Jesus**
- **Teachers pointing students to Christ**
- **Christian schools around the world sharing the hope of the gospel**

Let's take a few moments and pray.

[Pause for prayer.]

ACCESS

Now let's pray for **Access**.

Colossians 4:3 says, "*Pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message.*"

Let's ask God to open doors so more children and families can experience Christ-centered education and hear the hope of the gospel.

As you pray, think about:

- **A child who needs an opportunity**
- **A school that needs resources**
- **A family facing financial challenges**
- **A Christian educator serving in a difficult place**



Let's take a few moments and pray.

[Pause for prayer.]

ADVOCACY

Our final focus is **Advocacy**.

Joshua 1:9 reminds us, "*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*"

Let's pray for Christian schools and educators to have wisdom and courage to stand faithfully for truth and continue pointing students to Jesus.

As you pray, think about:

- **Wisdom for school leaders**
- **Courage for teachers**
- **Protection for Christian schools**
- **Faithfulness for our school and schools around the world**

Let's take a few moments and pray.

[Pause for prayer.]

Closing

As we finish, take a moment to remember the people and schools you prayed for today.

You may never meet them, but we are connected through Jesus. We can pray for one another because we are part of one family.

Thank you for being a school that prays.

Although we are many, we pray as one, strengthened by the One.



Strengthened as One

ACSI
STRONGER TOGETHER

Keep up to date on our social media.

ACSIUSA ACSI.USA

Use *#schoolsthatpray* on your social media posts.

www.acsi.org

1-800-367-0798

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