A SOUL CARE GUIDE

An Invitation to *Prayer* for Foster Families

Stories and prayer practices to encourage conversations with our loving Father as you serve hurting children and their families

FOSTER THE CITY

Table of Contents

30 PRAYERS • 5 CHAPTERS • 5 PRAYER PRACTICES

The Invitation 3

Chapter 1: The Breakfast Table 4

Prayer Practice: Praying Scripture 5

Chapter 2: Another Chair (or two! or three!) 8

Prayer Practice: Breath Prayers 9

Chapter 3: Invitation to the Table 11

Prayer Practice: Prayers of Lament 13

Chapter 4: Honored Place at the Table 16

Prayer Practice: Prayers of Celebration 17

Chapter 5: "I'd Stay Just for the Breakfasts!" 20

Prayer Practice: Prayer of Examen 21

Closing Prayer 22

THE INVITATION

You Are Invited to the Table!

TO: Foster the City Foster Families

WHAT: An invitation to regular conversations in prayer with our Heavenly Father as you love, serve, and pour out your life for hurting kids and their families

WHEN: In times of celebration; times of grieving; in times of rejoicing; in times of mourning; in times of longing; in times of desperate need; in times of thanksgiving

WHERE: Right where you are

These stories and prayer practices are an invitation to lean in and converse with a loving Father, Savior, and Counselor who invites you to His banquet table. There are 30 prayers in this guide. You are invited to use the guide to encourage you right where you are:

- Consider praying straight through the guide: One prayer each day
- Turn to a specific prayer practice that you need on a particular day or in a specific season
- Linger on a specific prayer or prayer practice for as long as you need

> "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
>
> — Philippians 4:6-7

CHAPTER ONE

The Breakfast Table

The first table to grace our newlywed apartment was a petite four-seater with a secret hidden beneath its smooth blonde wood. The lovely little table contained a hidden leaf that folded out and expanded the table with a cinch. We loved the idea of adding space for unexpected guests at a moment's notice. In time, we hoped to add a highchair holding our child to the table, but years of infertility kept the hidden leaf reserved for guests. We remained a "party of two."

Setting the Table

During our first thirteen years of marriage, many of our friends and family began to welcome children through foster care and adoption. They graciously invited us to their tables to share the joys and the heartbreak of their foster journeys. We went on medical mission trips to an orphanage in the Philippines and fell in love with the kids. God began opening our eyes and hearts to the possibility of welcoming kids to our table through adoption.

During our licensing process in 2012, there was a long form they asked us to complete with row upon row of checkboxes. Single child or sibling set? Girl or boy? Toddler or school-age child or youth? Emergency or long-term placement? Foster care or adoption? We prayerfully started checking box after box after box. Our dreams of adopting a child expanded to becoming a foster family for kids who needed a safe place to land, whether they joined us at the table for a few days or a lifetime.

Prayer 1

Prayer of Welcome

Lord Jesus - You welcome us to Your banquet table. Help us prepare our tables and our hearts to welcome in Your wounded ones with graciousness, love, and hope. Help us not give up in our efforts to reach kiddos who need a safe place to land while they are in transition, even when they reject our efforts, are surly, afraid, or don't have the strength to join us at the table. Amen and Amen.

PRAYER PRACTICE

Praying Scripture

Scripture can serve as a guideline for prayer. You can echo a prayer directly from Scripture, such as The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) or Hannah's Prayer (1 Samuel 2:1-10). Or you can use a specific Scripture verse, like this prayer from Psalm 30:5, NLT:

> My heart weeps for . This situation is so hard, Jesus. Help us remember that weeping may last through the night, but your joy comes in the morning.

We turn to Scripture again and again as we invite kids to our table. On days when we are weary or our hearts ache with the brokenness we hold, turning to God's Word for prayer serves as nourishment.

Fruit of the Spirit

In this section, we will practice praying Scripture together using the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 as an outline.

> *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."* — *Galatians 5:22-23*

Prayer 2

LOVE

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" — *Romans 8:35*

God of Love - Thank you that we can never be separated from the love of Christ. You have promised that nothing in this world - neither trouble nor hardship nor persecution nor famine nor nakedness nor danger nor sword will ever separate us from Your love. Pour out Your love on us, so that we can generously share Your love with the children in our homes. Help us model this enduring love to hurting children and their families. Amen.

Prayer 3

JOY

"But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you." — *Psalm 5:11*

Giver of Joy - We choose to take refuge in You and be glad, even when we are fatigued, discouraged, or brokenhearted. We choose to sing for joy, even as we live the brokenness of foster care alongside the children we love. We ask You to spread Your protection over us and the children in our homes. We love Your Name and we rejoice in You - even on the hard days. Amen.

Prayer 4

PEACE

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." — *John 16:33*

Bringer of Peace - You promised that we can have peace in You. You did not hide from us the reality that in this world, we would have trouble. We see the brokenness and the sorrow of the children in our care. We choose to take heart and remember that You have overcome the world! With Your help, we can create homes of peace for children in crisis. We invite You into our home and into our hearts. Bring Your peace. Amen.

Prayer 5

PATIENCE

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." — *Colossians 3:12*

Patient Savior - As Your Chosen people, holy and dearly loved, we choose today to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Thank You for being patient with us, so that we can extend patience to the kids in our homes - even when they are caught in cycles of anger, sorrow, dysregulation, or depression. Amen.

Prayer 6

KINDNESS

"Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?" — *Romans 2:4*

Kind Father - We pray today that we will not show contempt for the riches of Your kindness, forbearance, and patience. We acknowledge that Your kindness is intended to lead us to repentance. We confess that we did not show kindness today towards (a family member, a social worker, a teacher, a checker at the grocery store, the person who cut us off in traffic...). We repent of this unkindness and ask for Your forgiveness. Help us to be kind. May our small, consistent kindnesses lead the children in our homes and the people we interact with every day closer to You. Amen.

Prayer 7

FAITHFULNESS

"He replied, 'You of little faith, why are you so afraid?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm." — *Matthew 8:26*

Faithful Father - We confess that our faith is small. We let ourselves be consumed by fear. Help us remember who You are - the One who calms the winds and waves. When we are buffeted and whip-lashed by the uncertainty and quickly changing circumstances of foster care, when we feel like we are drowning or that the kids in our care are sinking, we choose to have faith in You. Increase our faith. Calm our storm. Rescue the kids and families that we love as they navigate the storms of trauma, addiction, abuse, and broken relationships. Amen.

Prayer 8

GENTLENESS

"Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near." — *Philippians 4:5*

Gentle Savior - On the days when our kids from hard places fight us with harsh words or express their turbulent emotions with vehemence or violence, help us respond with firmness and gentleness. When we deal with difficult personalities or challenging circumstances, help us not lash out in anger, but instead respond with gentleness. You are near us. You are with us. You will help us respond with gentleness. Amen.

CHAPTER TWO

Another Chair
(or two! or three!)

Just days after we finalized our foster care license, we received our first call for an emergency placement of two toddler boys. We tracked down a second bed and expanded our little table's hidden leaf. Two years later, these brothers joined our forever family through adoption. For several years, we welcomed more boys and provided respite for foster families. In 2022, we adopted our third son out of foster care. We upsized our table to one that included additional chairs and a long bench. Our hearts and our table were full as a "party of five."

An Extra Leaf

In the spring of 2023, a call came for a little girl. We prayed together as a family and the boys were all in, excited to have a sister join us at the table. Our role as Reina's* foster family included helping this vivacious and wounded six-year-old reunite with her family.

After years of welcoming only boys, our home and table needed some sparkly, girl-tastic updates! Our church partnered with Foster the City, a non-profit organization that works to equip churches and families to provide loving homes for children in foster care. Our church trained and background checked a support friend team. We called our friends and family and rallied with our support friends from church to help get a room ready with snuggly blankets, a starry nightlight, and sweet little girl decorations.

On the day we awaited Reina's arrival, we sat at our now scarred and much-loved table with our family's social worker, signing papers and discussing Reina's reunification plan. After finishing the paperwork for Reina's stay, our social worker proposed a challenging question: "There is a sibling set, a three-year-old boy and a two-year-old girl, who need a concurrent foster adopt family. The county social worker for your youngest son asked for your family specifically. Would you be willing to transition them into your home on the days that Reina is away with her family?"

Our hearts and minds were already full of the weighty responsibility of helping Reina feel safe and loved in our family. It seemed outright crazy to try to balance two more little ones transitioning into our family on the days she was gone. Yet, with exuberant "Yeses!" from our boys and with the caring support of our extended family and church community, we began setting our table for two more.

PRAYER PRACTICE

Breath Prayers

Breath Prayers are simple, rhythmic prayers whispered with the pattern of your breathing. Breath prayers are easy to memorize and recall. On overwhelming days when our schedules, minds, and lives are full, breath prayers can quickly connect us with God and invite Him into our everyday moments.

Each prayer starts by calling on a Name of God (inhale)
and ends with sharing a God-given desire (exhale).

9	INHALE Jehovah Shalom "The LORD is Peace"	→	EXHALE Be my peace	Judges 6:24
10	INHALE Immanuel "God with Us"	→	EXHALE Be with me now	Matthew 1:23
11	INHALE Man of Sorrows	→	EXHALE Weep with me	Isaiah 53:3
12	INHALE Jehovah Jireh "The LORD will Provide"	→	EXHALE Take care of me	Genesis 22:14

13

INHALE

El Nehkumah

"God of all Comfort"

EXHALE

Count my tears

2 Cor 1:3;
Ps 56:8

14

INHALE

Maon, Macheseh, Magen

"Dwelling Place, Refuge, Shield"

EXHALE

Be my refuge

Psalm 91:1-2

15

INHALE

El Roi

"God who sees me"

EXHALE

See me and see the children I love

Genesis 16:13-14

My own breath prayer

INHALE

EXHALE

CHAPTER THREE

Invitation to the Table

For six weeks, Reina graced our table. Mornings were brutal for our little lady. Reina woke each morning, groggy and frightened, in an unfamiliar room. She hated school - especially the taunts from the other kids. She shared with us how they teased her about her ride to school on the special "transport bus," her ever-changing living situation, and her fly-away curly hair. Reina entered foster care just as the school year started, and the trauma and transition to an unfamiliar home and family affected everything at school, from learning how to read to connecting with the other children in her class to regulating her emotions and behaviors.

Mornings at our house are loud and boisterous. We all crowd into the kitchen after early morning farm chores to prepare the grub and eat together around our breakfast table. The raucous sounds and tantalizing smells of the breakfast festivities began drawing Reina from her room earlier and earlier each morning.

Soon, Reina joined us in the preparations. She loved donning an apron over her school clothes, praying for her mom and brother during morning grace, and making plans for the next day's breakfast. I styled her hair while she ate, helping her tame her riotous curls. She loved teasing the boys, and her gap-tooth smile began to replace her daily tears before school.

Around our table, Reina played board games, hosted doll tea parties, and laughed at my husband's "dad jokes." Around our table, our oldest boys shared openly with her about their adoption out of foster care, the death of their birth mother, their parents' history of addiction and incarceration, and their deepening relationship with their older sisters and younger brother. Around our table, Reina responded by sharing the traumatic story of her family's separation with our boys, who sat unusually quiet and attentive as she shared her heartbreak. Around our table, she spoke of her momma and baby brother with honesty and courage.

For one exceedingly long and painful year, Reina believed she was the only one, ever, to be hurt and wounded by her loved ones and separated from them by foster care. And now, around our table sat an entire family who daily lived her reality of pain and grief, alongside a budding hope that things could be different.

"What we need is the healed capacity to imagine and believe the profound goodness of the future, to stand in the light of a happy ending whose power reaches into our present and draws us forward to hope. For we too have a Husband [and Father] whose love transforms our story. From the earliest days of Christianity, followers of Jesus have understood that worship is a 'resacralization' of time. By entering time, Christ owned and redeemed it, redirecting our disastrous progression to death toward, instead, the dawning horizons of eternity. To be a Christian is to embody this knowledge in the days, hours, and minutes of our lives - the high and holy days of worship and the lowly and precious space of the breakfast table."

— Sarah Clarkson, *This Beautiful Truth*, pg 153 *

What table is God inviting me to in this season?

What practical things can I do to make my table more inviting as I feed the bodies, hearts, and minds of my family?

*REFERENCE INFORMATION: Clarkson, Sarah. *This Beautiful Truth*. Baker Books, 15 June 2021.

PRAYER PRACTICE

Prayers of Lament

Prayers of Lament are common throughout the Bible, especially in the Psalter. These Psalms express deep sorrow and despair, and they cry out with honesty and without restraint to God. Foster care and adoption invite us to carry the sorrow of hurting children and their broken families. This grief wearies not only our hearts but also takes a toll on our bodies. We carry grief on our tense shoulders, our clenched fists, our drooping neck and head. Begin to release your sorrow through a posture of worship that physically allows you to surrender your grief:

- Kneel and lift your open hands
- Kneel, forehead to ground, arms outstretched
- Lift your face to heaven, open arms and hands
- Pray as you walk

Each of these prayers is based on a different translation of Psalm 13. Read a prayer aloud and consider trying a different posture of worship as you pray.

Prayer 16

Psalm 13

NIV

1 How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? 2 How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?

3 Look on me and answer, Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death, 4 and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

5 But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. 6 I will sing the Lord's praise, for he has been good to me.

Prayer 17

Psalm 13

NLT

1 O Lord, how long will you forget me? Forever? How long will you look the other way? 2 How long must
I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day? How long will my enemy have
the upper hand?

3 Turn and answer me, O Lord my God! Restore the sparkle to my eyes, or I will die. 4 Don't let my
enemies gloat, saying, "We have defeated him!" Don't let them rejoice at my downfall.

5 But I trust in your unfailing love. I will rejoice because you have rescued me. 6 I will sing to the Lord
because he is good to me.

Prayer 18

Psalm 13

NASB

1 How long, Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? 2 How long
am I to feel anxious in my soul, With grief in my heart all the day? How long will my enemy be exalted
over me?

3 Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; Enlighten my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death, 4 And
my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," And my adversaries will rejoice when I am shaken.

5 But I have trusted in Your faithfulness; My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation. 6 I will sing to the
Lord, Because He has looked after me.

Prayer 19

Psalm 13

MSG

1-2 Long enough, God— you've ignored me long enough. I've looked at the back of your head long enough.
Long enough I've carried this ton of trouble, lived with a stomach full of pain. Long enough my arrogant
enemies have looked down their noses at me.

3-4 Take a good look at me, God, my God; I want to look life in the eye, So no enemy can get the best of
me or laugh when I fall on my face.

5-6 I've thrown myself headlong into your arms— I'm celebrating your rescue. I'm singing at the top of
my lungs, I'm so full of answered prayers.

Prayer 20

Psalm 13

ESV

[1] How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? [2] How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

[3] Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, [4] lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

[5] But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. [6] I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Prayer 21

Psalm 13

AMP

[1] How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? [2] How long must I take counsel in my soul, Having sorrow in my heart day after day? How long will my enemy exalt himself and triumph over me?

[3] Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; Give light (life) to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death, [4] And my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," And my adversaries will rejoice when I am shaken.

[5] But I have trusted and relied on and been confident in Your lovingkindness and faithfulness; My heart shall rejoice and delight in Your salvation. [6] I will sing to the Lord, Because He has dealt bountifully with me.

Prayer 22

Psalm 13

NKJV

[1] How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? [2] How long shall I take counsel in my soul, Having sorrow in my heart daily? How long will my enemy be exalted over me?

[3] Consider and hear me, O Lord my God; Enlighten my eyes, Lest I sleep the sleep of death; [4] Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed against him"; Lest those who trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

[5] But I have trusted in Your mercy; My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation. [6] I will sing to the Lord, Because He has dealt bountifully with me.

CHAPTER FOUR

Honored Place at the Table

Inviting kids from hard places to our table can seem like a romantic and unrealistic ideal. Kids who experience trauma often struggle with food issues, and many have never experienced the luxury of having enough to eat or a safe place to share a meal. Mealtimes can feel like a losing battle.

When we invite children, like Reina and our sons, to the table, we invite them to an honored and dedicated seat. An honored place that reminds them, "You have a place at our table, no matter what happened in your past. You have a place at our table even when you steal or lie, lose your temper, or get bad grades, say bad words, or break things. You have a place at our table when you are afraid, sad, angry, or when you miss your family and wish you were anywhere else but here. You have a place here, with us, at this table, for as long as you need."

Our table is a place where we remind each child that they are worthy, cherished, loved, and invited, a place where they are seen and heard, a place where their hearts and bodies are nourished and hope is shared, a place where they are beloved.

Expanding the Table

Reina's transition home was beautiful and bumpy. We prayed for wisdom and the right words to share with her broken heart. We collaborated closely with her social workers, teachers, and mentors in her after-school program to give her the skills and confidence she needed to make a healthy transition back home. We treated her mom with dignity and spoke about her mom and the struggles she faced with honesty. We shared with Reina how diligently her mom had worked over the past year to prepare for her homecoming and that her care team was ready to step back in and help if things got tough. We prayed with and for her.

Several weeks into her stay, the regular driver of her transport bus pulled us aside during morning pickup. She could not believe the change in Reina. Reina's smile, confidence, and peaceful demeanor contrasted greatly with the scared, rushed, and frantic girl she used to drive to school. Reina's teacher and social workers noticed the changes and began to delight in their interactions with her. She never visited the principal's office for the rest of her first-grade year, and she began making friends with the other girls in her after-school program. Never underestimate the power of pancakes paired with prayer!

PRAYER PRACTICE

Prayers of Celebration & Thanksgiving

Celebrate both small wins and giant victories by praying through one of these Psalms to establish a time of celebration, worship, and thanksgiving. Pray that God would help you choose an attitude of celebration and thanksgiving, even on tough days.

Prayer 23

Psalm 34:1-7

NIV

1 I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. 2 I will glory in the Lord; let the
afflicted hear and rejoice. 3 Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.

4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. 5 Those who look to him are
radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. 6 This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he
saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he
delivers them.

Today I am thankful for:

Prayer 24

Psalm 92:1-5

NIV

1 It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, 2 proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, 3 to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp.

4 For you make me glad by your deeds, Lord; I sing for joy at what your hands have done. 5 How great are your works, Lord, how profound your thoughts!

Today I celebrate:

Prayer 25

Psalm 95:1-7

NIV

1 Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. 2 Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

3 For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. 5 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

6 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; 7 for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Today I am thankful for:

Prayer 26

Psalm 100

NIV

1 Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. 2 Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. 3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.
5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Today I celebrate:

Prayer 27

Psalm 103:1-6

NIV

1 Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. 2 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

6 The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

Today I am thankful for:

Prayer 28

Psalm 30:1-5

NIV

[1] I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. [2] Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me. [3] You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit.

[4] Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name. [5] For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

Today I celebrate:

Prayer 29

Psalm 75:1

NIV

We praise you, God, we praise you, for your Name is near; people tell of your wonderful deeds.

Today I am thankful for:

CHAPTER FIVE

"I'd Stay Just for the Breakfasts!"

A year after Reina successfully transitioned home, my youngest son and I unexpectedly saw their family at a speech therapy office. Reina's mom permitted me to talk to her and to hug her. Seeing their family still together, looking healthy and happy, was a gift.

Through the jumble of emotions that accompanied the hard and happy realities of Reina's reunification, we also committed our hearts and permanently expanded our table to the two children who transitioned into our home as Reina transitioned out. These two littles became part of our forever family through adoption in the fall of 2024, making us an official "party of seven."

As we reflect on our time with Reina, it was the presence of hope and the hospitality of a warm daily routine around the breakfast table that prompted her sincere and heartfelt statement, "I can't wait to go home, but I'd stay just for the breakfasts!"

PRAYER PRACTICE

Prayer of Examen

> "Historically in the Christian tradition, the prayer of examen has provided an effective framework for gratitude. Typically prayed in the evening, examen begins by reviewing the day with God, playing back the events of the day like a movie and thanking God for every good thing along the way... Next, invite the Holy Spirit to illuminate the day, showing you the moment when God's presence felt nearest and the moment his presence felt most distant. While God is always with us, our awareness of his presence wanes. Finally, pray a simple prayer of intercession for tomorrow."
>
> - Tyler Staton, Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools, pg 67*

To close this dedicated season of prayer, grab a journal and reflect using a Prayer of Examen:

Question 1: For what am I most grateful as I consider how Jesus has invited me to His banquet table?

Question 2: What was the most life-giving aspect of this season of prayer? What was the most draining aspect?

Question 3: In this season of dedicated prayer, when did I have the deepest sense of connection with God? Was there a prayer practice that resonated with me this season?

Question 4: What did I learn about God's character or His promises as I prayed?

Question 5: What is one thing I don't want to forget from this season of dedicated prayer?

*REFERENCE INFORMATION: Staton, Tyler. *Praying like Monks, Living like Fools.* Zondervan, 4 Oct. 2022.

Closing Prayer

Prayer 30

God, I invite Your searching gaze into my heart.
Examine me through and through;
find out everything that may be hidden within me.
Put me to the test and sift through all my anxious cares.
See if there is any path of pain I'm walking on, and lead
me back to Your glorious, everlasting ways.
The path that brings me back to You.

Psalm 139:23-24, TPT

*Names and some personal details have been changed to protect the privacy of the children and families mentioned in the story.

Written by La Né Powers for Foster the City