40 Day Prayer Guide



FOSTER THE CITY

Day 1 Confession

Mark 12:30-31

Father, we confess we have not always loved our neighbors, especially children in foster care, as ourselves. Forgive us for choosing comfort over your call to hospitality. Transform our hearts to reflect your love and help us embrace the vulnerable with compassion. Amen.

Day 2 Children in Foster Care

Psalm 139:13-16

Lord, we lift up every child in foster care and ask for your peace to surround them. Remind them of their worth and value and that they are wonderfully made by you. Help us listen to their needs and respond with patience and love. Amen.

Day 3 Resource Parents (Foster Parents)

Psalm 121:1-2

God, strengthen resource parents as they care for children in their homes. Bless them with endurance, wisdom, and grace for the weight of this calling. Surround them with support so they never carry the work alone. We pray for more families that are willing to open their hearts and homes to vulnerable children. Amen.

Day 4 Your County/Your Community

Mark 9:36-37

Father, we bring our community before you, asking for transformation through your love. May our county be known for transforming foster care in your name and may your Church lead the way in fostering reconciliation and hope. We pray for more families ready to welcome children than children waiting for homes. Amen.

Day 5

FTC Advocates

Isaiah 6:8

Father, we are so thankful for our Advocates who courageously answer your call to lead. Thank you for equipping them to communicate needs and provide pathways for engagement, pouring out to their teams. We pray they are met with your love and grace, and that their faith is magnified as they obey you. Amen.

Day 6

CSEC Foster Youth

Psalm 82:3-4

God of justice and mercy, we pray that the issue of Commercial Sexual Exploitation breaks our hearts as it breaks yours. Lead us in this battle, opening our eyes and hearts to strong action, and giving your people boldness to speak against exploitation. May these youth know your light and life, and may they experience healing and freedom through Christ's love. Amen.

Day 7

Child Welfare Workers

Galatians 6:9

Father, we thank you for those serving as Child Welfare Workers. Strengthen their emotional and spiritual health and remind them they are not alone. Help these workers to turn to you in grief, to renounce hopelessness, and for your Church to offer encouragement and care. Amen.

Day 8

Those Who Have Experienced Trauma

Psalm 147:3

Gracious Father, we mourn for those wounded by trauma, longing for the day when its effects are rewritten by Jesus' victory. Bring comfort to the hurting and peace to the afraid, casting out fear with your perfect love. Use your people to extend patient, thoughtful, and unconditional love and healing - restoring what the enemy has tried to destroy. Amen.

Day 9

A Watching World

Matthew 5:14

You've called us to be a light; help us reflect your grace and love through our actions, words, and lives. May we model abundant life to the world, showing grace, hope, and love to every person. Fill us with your Spirit, so others see your love in us and desire to know you more. Amen.

Day 10

Local Non-Profits Serving the Foster Community

Romans 12:4-6

Heavenly Father, we praise you for the local non-profits responding to the needs of children in foster care. Make their path straight as they use their unique gifts, and help us run side by side in joyful collaboration. Provide their staff and leadership with clarity and discernment and power to eradicate darkness with your light. Amen.

Day 11

Youth Impacted by Foster Care

Ephesians 3:14-21

God, we praise you for your great love and pray your Church overflows with it for every youth impacted by foster care. Reveal their immeasurable worth, replacing despair with hope and rejection with belonging. Make yourself known to them through your people, bringing them to homes overflowing with unconditional love, as we humbly join your work. Amen.

Day 12

Sibling Groups in Foster Care

Psalm 34:18

Emmanuel, we pray for homes that will take in sibling sets, partnering with you to bring wholeness and healing while allowing them to remain with each other. You know the deep, unique bond that connects them. We pray for those who are separated from their siblings and that you would provide comfort as well as continued contact and connection with each other. Amen.

Day 13

Stewardship

1 Peter 4:10

Father, you are the ultimate gift-giver, and all we have comes from you. Forgive us for using our gifts for our own comfort and self-promotion. Instead, teach us to use our abilities for self-sacrifice, service, and building up our community. We pray that our giving will fuel joy, deepen our unity, and will bring you glory as we serve others. Amen.

Day 14

Bilingual Foster Families

Proverbs 31:8

Father, we thank you for families who say yes to opening their hearts and homes, speaking on behalf of vulnerable children. We pray specifically for bilingual families to step forward with courage, understanding the importance of shared language for children and their biological families. Grant them wisdom to serve with passion for reconciliation and healing. Amen.

Day 15

Church Congregations

Luke 18:1-8

Father, awaken your Church to the cries of vulnerable children, stirring us to be known for hope and healing. Stir us to move with compassion, leading us into action where churches move towards the vulnerable. Raise up more Foster Families and Support Friends within your Church until the need is met. Amen.

Day 16

Teen Mothers

Isaiah 41:13

Abba, we lift up teen mothers in foster care, asking that you would show them how incredibly known and loved by you they are. Empower them to love their children, meet them at their fears, and strengthen them in their inner being. We pray for families to welcome these young mothers, providing support, equipping, and encouragement as they build their families. Amen.

Day 17

Financial Partners

Proverbs 11:25

Lord, thank you for your generosity and for modeling it through your Son. We respond by giving cheerfully, trusting you will multiply our financial resources for good work in our communities. Thank you for blessing our Financial Partners, who faithfully steward resources for Kingdom work; may they continue to listen to your Holy Spirit's promptings towards generosity. Amen.

Day 18

Birth Families

Isaiah 61:3

Lord, we thank you for the gift of family and bring before you parents of youth in foster care who have suffered hardship. May they find healing and hope in you, turning towards a transformation of their hearts that overflows into reconciliation and reunification with their children. Teach your Church to support and mentor these biological parents into patterns of health and devotion. Amen.

Day 19

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Proverbs 31:9

Lord, we lift up CASA workers, praying they are able and willing to speak up for those who need advocacy in our court systems. Thank you for these volunteers who train, connect, and serve foster youth. Give them clarity to discern needs, sustain them in their work, and provide peace as they hold difficult stories of the youth they are serving. Amen.

Day 20

Potential Resource (Foster) Parents

Proverbs 3:5-6

Lord, thank you for calling your people to move in action toward love and reconciliation. We pray for individuals, couples, and families whom you have uniquely called to welcome children in need into their homes. Bless these families with tenacity, protection, and favor that the licensing process would be smooth and quick as you go before them to remove roadblocks and red tape. Amen.

Day 21

Law Enforcement, Judges, and Lawyers

Psalm 82:3-4

Father, we are thankful for those called to be defenders of justice, stepping into society's brokenness as law enforcement, lawyers, and judges. As they face fragmented families, may they be met with your hope and turn their burdens over to you. Impart wisdom, discernment, and endurance to those who seek to keep children safe and repair broken families. Amen.

Day 22

Reunification

Colossians 1:19-20

Beautiful Savior, thank you for reconciling us to yourself. In light of this, we pray for foster families to have courage and perseverance as they champion reunification. Help parents make necessary changes, and may both foster and biological parents have wisdom to parent well. Transform the lives of everyone impacted by foster care. Amen.

Day 23

Foster The City Leadership

Romans 12:1-2

Heavenly Father, thank you for building this ministry. We pray that our Foster the City leaders walk humbly with you, completely dependent for all things, and that they resist discouragement. For those who are married, we ask their marriages stay strong and prioritized. Grant them wisdom and inspiration, and strengthen and refresh them as they abide in you. Amen.

Day 24

Respite Care Providers

1 John 3:18

Lord God, thank you for those who provide respite care, stepping in to offer temporary support to foster families. We pray for these caregivers to show your love through their actions, offering a much-needed break and demonstrating your faithfulness to those in need. May they be filled with your grace and strength as they serve. Amen.

Day 25

Biological Children of Foster Parents

Psalm 68:6

Heavenly Father, we lift up the biological children of foster parents who have welcomed foster youth into their homes. We know that this is a difficult journey for them, and we pray that they will understand this act of love. Bless their sacrifice with compassion and help them to express their needs in healthy ways so that they are fully supported. We pray that their parents' calling becomes their own. Amen.

Day 26

Aging out Youth in Foster Care

Jeremiah 29:11-13

Heavenly Father, we pray for those who are aging out of foster care, many of whom face significant challenges after reaching this transitional age. May they know your plans for them are full of hope and a future, and may they find supportive communities and resources to thrive. Guide your Church to walk alongside them, offering mentorship, encouragement, and practical help. Amen.

Day 27

Support Friends

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Eternal God, we thank you for the gift of community and pray that every resource parent would have enough Support Friends to meet their practical, emotional, and spiritual needs. We pray that you would lead individuals to take the next steps to become Support Friends. As they serve, may they continue to abide in Christ so they can minister out of an overflow of your presence. Amen.

Day 28

Kinship Caregivers

John 10:10

Father, we praise you for kinship caregivers who have welcomed a child into their home. We pray that these relationships would flourish, adding security and stability to the children's lives. Pour out your wisdom and provide the emotional, spiritual, and financial resources they need to provide a safe home. We pray that you would bless them with an abundance of support. Amen.

Day 29

Medical and Mental Health Care Professionals

Matthew 11:28-30

God, our Great Physician, we pray that healthcare professionals would have the time and resources needed to holistically care for children in foster care. Please provide doctors and nurses who are passionate about bringing healing and hope to these children. We pray that they will serve with compassion and make wise decisions as they plan out care. Amen.

Day 30

Adoptive Families

Proverbs 3:5-6

Faithful Father, thank you for being a Father who has adopted us and for the families who have made the decision to adopt. We pray for both the celebration and sorrow that is attached to this journey. Please help each adopted child to know how deeply their parents love them and to find comfort and healing as they grieve the loss of their first family. Ultimately, we pray that adoption points people to the wonderful power of the Gospel. Amen.

Day 31

Foster The City

Ephesians 1:16-19

Lord, we thank you for how you are using Foster the City to raise up Foster Families and Support Friends. We pray that this organization will be a source of hope to social workers, children, and biological parents. Continue to provide the volunteers, leaders, and finances needed so that we will see a waiting list of Foster Families rather than a waiting list of children in need of a home. Amen.

Topical Prayers

Day 32

Commissioning for New Foster Families/Placements

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of these families, whose hearts you have stirred with compassion to care for children experiencing foster care. We pray that you would equip these families with the wisdom, patience, and unwavering love needed for the long journey ahead. Surround them with a church community that will stand by them and offer practical help and encouragement. Amen.

Day 33

Visits with Family

Father, we ask for Your presence and peace to be with our children and their families during their visits. Grant understanding, patience, and kindness to everyone involved. Help heal brokenness from the wounds of separation and hurt. Allow these visits to create opportunities for positive connection, that these children would know how deeply they are loved. Amen.

Day 34

Reunification

Abba, we honor the beauty of reunification, but we know how deeply the pain can be of transitioning a child out of a home. Be with these Foster Families as they both celebrate and grieve; help them to have grace with themselves and the process. Please surround them with support and overwhelm them with truth as they cling to eternal promises. Renew and strengthen them as they keep their eyes focused on you. Amen.

Day 35

Father's Day

Holy God, we pray on this Father's Day that every father be able to lead their family with unwavering faith, trusting that God is always by their side. Lord Jesus, would they lean on your strength, and when foster youth feel sad and angry would these fathers remind them that those emotions are not too big or too scary for you to hold. Allow these fathers to point them to you - their Heavenly Father - the Lion and the Lamb. Amen.

Day 36 Mother's Day

Lord, we pray for Mother's Day. This day can hold so much pain, confusion and sorrow for foster youth, we pray for your peace and comfort to fill homes and hearts. Jesus, would you allow foster mothers to be a safe place where children can learn to find their identity in Christ through a mother's kind instruction and wise counsel. Allow them to see the women in their life full of strength, dignity, and able to face the future with courage because of who you are to them. Amen.

Day 37 Last Visits with Birth Family Before Adoption

Heavenly Father, be with these parents as they say goodbye and learn how to navigate life without their children in it. Please watch over and protect [Child's Name]. Be their comfort as they experience this transition. Help them all to carry the good memories in their hearts and release the difficult feelings. Give them a deep sense of belonging and peace, knowing they are loved by you. Amen.

Day 38 Times of Big Transition (First Day of School)

Gracious God, we pray for these children as they start this new school year. Surround them with caring teachers and kind classmates who see them, support them, and help them feel safe and valued. Grant them courage to face new experiences, resilience to overcome challenges, and the wisdom to build positive, healthy friendships. May they feel Your love and presence with them every day. Amen.

Day 39 Court Days

God, we pray for the judges, social workers, and lawyers involved in this case. Grant them insight and mercy to make the best decisions for this child's well-being. Give each of them clarity in complex circumstances and the empathy to act with compassion. We trust you to guide the path toward their protection and a safe, stable future. Amen.

Day 40 Adoption

Lord, we pray that the spirit of adoption would work in the body of Christ. Let your church be reminded that we were once lost, but we've been found and extend this same love and grace to children who need a place to call home forever. Thank you for gracing us with the opportunity to be an extension of what we have received from you. Amen.

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