

Praying for God's People (8/27/23)

Main Verses: Daniel 9:17-19

Key Verse: Daniel 9:19

Takeaway': God loves us, and loves when we, in light of his mercy, pray for the healthiness of his people - those who are called by his name.

Getting Started: What does it mean to be spiritually healthy?



READ (or have older kids help read): Daniel 9:17-19

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Where are the people?
- **Who** does Daniel pray for? **Why**?
- What does “for your own sake” mean?
- **What** does he pray for?

Elementary:

- Where are the people?
- Why is it important to pray?
- What does “for your own sake” (vv 17, 19) refer to? What does it mean?
- What does Daniel ask the Lord to do?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- Daniel asks God to end the people’s exile, to make them spiritually “healthy” again.
- “For your own sake” refers to God’s commitment to the glory of his own name.
- Daniel prays not because of the people’s goodness, but because of God’s mercy and compassion.
- God loves us and loves when we pray for others,
- Daniel prays for forgiveness and for God to act on behalf of his people.
- Through faith in Jesus, we can be confident when we pray, knowing that God will forgive us and help us to live for him.

Elementary:

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An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God, thanking him that we can always talk to him through faith in Jesus. Thank him that we can pray for the people in our lives and that not only does he hear us, he loves when we pray for others. Think about someone even now that you might want to pray for, maybe your mom or dad, or a brother and sister, or a friend. Pray for them and then be sure to thank God for his love and grace in listening to our prayers.

(Elementary) Talk to God, and thank him that we can always pray to him. Thank God for not only hearing our prayers through faith in Jesus, but that he loves it when we pray for other people. Praise God for his great mercy and compassion, that he forgives us and helps us to live for him. Think about someone you could pray for now, and talk to God about that person and their needs. Thank God for his love and grace in Jesus so we can always know he hears our prayers.