



**Prayer makes a difference.
God loves it when children pray.**

“Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read, “From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise?”

Matthew 21:16

There are so many issues that children and adolescents should not have to confront, especially in cities of developing countries: problems that deny the opportunity of a secure and loving family life that God intended. In this, the 21st anniversary year of the World Weekend of Prayer, let’s mobilise a million children to pray and listen to God: that lasting change may result.

JOIN US IN PRAYER...

*Lord Jesus,
Help each of us to educate, equip, empower children about talking and listening to you in prayer. Give us opportunities to reveal something of your love and power to the children in our midst. And may vulnerable children with tough lives draw close to you in prayer and reveal you to others around them.
Lord, teach us to pray. Amen*

**TEN REASONS TO HOLD
A WORLD WEEKEND
OF PRAYER EVENT**

1 Origin

Prayer is where Viva started 21 years ago.

2 Unity

Irrespective of denomination – we all can pray. A collective impact and influence

3 Humility

It helps us submit to God.

4 Focus

It gives us wider awareness of the issues for children at risk.

5 Momentum

It can give us energy and purpose for the year ahead.

6 Simple action

No formulas – uncomplicated approach.

7 Blessings

People become engaged, committed and change.

8 Networks

Prayer can establish and extend networks.

9 Releasing

Let children lead us!

10 Mobilise, inspire, equip

Act according to what we hear from God.

KEY BIBLE VERSES

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.'
Luke 11: 1

Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.
Psalm 8: 2

Do not be quick with your mouth,
do not be hasty in your heart
to utter anything before God.
God is in heaven
and you are on earth,
so let your words be few.
Ecclesiastes 5: 2

He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God's people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand.
Revelation 8: 3b, 4

The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."
1 Samuel 3: 10

But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.
Matthew 6: 6

WHAT COULD YOU DO?

Example events held in recent years include:

Italy: an event comprising children's prayers, songs of praise, poems, fasting, collections and a march through the town.

Oxford, UK: Sunday evening service, with prayer stations (related to local projects, Syria/Lebanon, Gaza/Palestine and child soldiers), children's activities in the service, showing a meditation video.

Kansas, USA: school event for pre-school through to Grade 8 (100 children) with prayer stations, student led worship, presentation of WWP (with pictures and slides), ending with corporate prayer.

Mwanza, Tanzania: Day of prayer with a meal, the children organised a choir, children organised drama, and group prayers.

Guduru, India: prayers, church service and a project: a meal after the Sunday service in the orphanage in the slum area where the church is based, looking for donations to improve the church and feed more people.

Wan Chai, Hong Kong: reflection and prayers for children, a whole congregation service, spreading the message through the Viva link.

Zimbabwe, Harare: Children praying in homes on Saturday and then together at church on Sunday.

Go to www.worldweekendofprayer.com for more details of our resources, including:

- a webinar training programme to train church workers and church leaders how to teach children to pray to and listen to God.
- an illustrated children's prayer book with pictures done by children showing the story of Hannah and pictures of issues facing children.
- virtual prayer space, to allow children to post prayers and picture-prayers in the weeks leading up to the event and afterwards.

Join our Facebook page at facebook.com/WWPrayer to see what others are doing.

The World Weekend of Prayer campaign is a global initiative held over the first weekend of June every year, uniting hundreds of thousands of adults and children across more than 40 countries.

Viva is an international Christian charity that is inspiring lasting change in children's lives through the power of collective action in 37 community networks worldwide.

powered by
viva
together for children