

Family Bible Devotional

ANY TIME



ANY PLACE



ANY PRAYER



Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer Family Bible Devotional
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A Note from Laura

I have vivid memories from childhood of my family gathering around our kitchen island before school to talk about God's word. It didn't happen every day, but when they could, my parents pulled us together to read Scripture aloud and discuss a few prompts from a devotional. As an adult, I'm thankful for the times my parents initiated, which is why I'm excited for the devotional you hold in your hands.

In so many ways, prayer is wonderfully simple, yet at the same time, it can be fraught with questions, doubts, or misunderstandings. But it doesn't have to be. Through this devotional's simple, achievable sessions, your family will be encouraged and guided to grow in this precious practice we have as believers.

What a privilege it is to pray! May these devotions deepen your family's joy in talking with God anytime, anyplace, and with any prayer.



A handwritten signature of Laura Wifler in black ink, written in a cursive style.

Laura Wifler

Author, *Any Time,*
Any Place, Any Prayer



Prayer can be easy—or it can be really hard. But we don't often stop to think about what it really is and why it's possible. And sometimes, sadly, we don't bother with it at all.

Laura Wifler's storybook *Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer* is a beautiful, encouraging journey through the story of prayer in the Bible—from the Garden of Eden, where Adam and Eve talked with God face to face, through Old Testament examples and the teaching of Jesus, and all the way to the promise of the new creation, where we'll dwell with God forever.


You might have enjoyed Laura's storybook together already, or you might not have seen it at all! Either way, this devotional is a chance to lead your family deeper into the story of prayer—and to put prayer into practice too.

It's designed to be easy to lead and fun to do, and to help your family to learn to pray with confidence, anytime, anyplace.

Each session includes:

- A short opening prayer
- A starter question
- A short Bible passage, printed in full
- Two questions about the passage
- A short explanation that can be read aloud
- Two reflection questions (Usually one is simpler and the other requires more thought. Feel free to just pick one!)
- A prayer idea

Finally, there's always an optional extra section aimed at older children, if you have them. Sometimes these are based



on an extra part of the passage; sometimes they're aiming at deeper reflection. You might like to include these as part of your session, or your child might want to take the book away and look at those sections on their own. Use them however you like!

Some sessions include simple creative reflection ideas. If you have one child, he or she can use the space provided at the end of the chapters for these. But if you have more than one, it's worth having paper and pencils handy.

You'll also find bonus puzzles and coloring activities here and there throughout the book.

I hope these devotions will help your family to explore, reflect, and grow together as you enjoy the story of prayer. I hope you'll have fun—and I hope you'll find yourselves praying more often, more joyfully, and with more confidence in Jesus.



1. A Beautiful Garden



Pray

Dear Jesus, thank you for the chance to hear from you today! Please help us to learn and grow the way you want us to.

For starters

What would be your perfect place to live? And who would live in it with you?

Genesis 2 v 4-9

⁴ This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵ Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, ⁶ but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. ⁷ Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

⁸ Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.

⁹ The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.



Explore the story

Read verses 4-7

Q: *What was the world like at the beginning, before God made the first human?*



Read verses 8-9

Q: *Why was the garden a good place to live?*

Life in the beginning was wonderful. After God made the earth and heavens, he made the very first human, a man called Adam—and soon he also made a woman named Eve. God didn't want Adam and Eve to live just anywhere. He wanted them to live with him! He made them a beautiful garden, with plenty of delicious food to eat. Adam and Eve were friends with God. They could tell him anything, anytime!

Q: *If you were Adam and Eve, how would you have felt about God?*

Q: *God gave Adam and Eve good things. What are some good things God has given you?*



Extra

Adam and Eve didn't just live in a perfect place—they had a perfect friendship with God too.

Q: *What are some differences between Adam and Eve's situation and our situation today?*



Q: *Do you ever find it hard to talk with God? Why do you think that is?*

Don't worry that your relationship with God isn't perfect. In this book we're going to discover God's plan for helping us be friends with him! For now, feel free to pause and ask for God's help with anything you like.

Pray

Humans don't live in the Garden of Eden anymore, but God does look after us in lots of ways. So, take some time now to say some short thank-you prayers. Here are some examples:

Thank you for my breakfast.

Dear God, thank you for my friend Joe.

Thank you, Jesus, for giving me toys to play with.

When you're done, say a big AMEN all together!