



How to Pray for... **EDUCATION**



The opportunity for education often makes the difference between desperation and flourishing. Statistically, equitable education leads to better health, higher incomes, and more stable societies. Yet, many children face incredible barriers. Decent teachers aren't willing to work in poor areas. There are rundown schools, overcrowding, lack of supplies... Many children walk 2-5 miles to get to school. But the biggest barrier to education is often people's mindset. Too many believe that some—because they are girls or disabled or part of a minority group or destined to be farmers—simply don't need an education or aren't capable of learning.

While these problems are widespread and very real, we also see God's people overcoming these challenges in thousands of communities around the world. One pastor in Southeast Asia, after learning that all people have great value to God, became a champion for girls' education; he persuaded 70 villages to send girls to school. In Africa and India, Christians have risen up to help make sure deaf children and students with autism have equal access to education. Churches are cleaning school grounds, building classrooms, and buying school supplies. As the church learns God's concern for every area of life and begins to value education, school attendance grows and students flourish.

*Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still;
teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
For through wisdom your days will be many,
and years will be added to your life.
Proverbs 9:9-11*

Please pray with us...

- Praise God for creating each of us uniquely and carefully, and for His good design of growth, learning, and development over the course of our lives.
- Thank God for the way He is using His people in the area of education. Pray that He will continue to use His church in more communities to help overcome barriers to young people attending school. Pray that churches would have the opportunity to understand their God-given role in helping children to grow mentally as well as physically and spiritually.
- Pray that all young people would have the opportunity to be educated so that they can reach their God-given potential and contribute to flourishing societies.
- Pray that all children—especially girls, those with disabilities, those from impoverished backgrounds, and minorities—will be seen and treated with great value. Pray for equal opportunities for education.
- Pray that children would have everything they need to learn—enough to eat, healthy bodies and minds, school supplies, safety, and encouragement.
- For parents, that they would see the importance of sending their children to school. Pray that they would have the resources to pay for school fees, supplies, and uniforms. Pray that they would support their children well, even if they themselves didn't have the chance to go to school.
- For educators—teachers, classroom assistants, and administrators. Pray that they would see and value each child as God does. Pray for wisdom and insight in how to steward the resources they have and shepherd the children in their care. Pray for teachers with passion, knowledge, and skill. Pray that more Christians would feel called into education and would have a biblical perspective of their role in the lives of students.
- Pray for government ministries of education—that they would act justly, seeing all children as having potential and providing equal access to education. Pray that God will raise up Christians in government who know that all people are made in God's image and advocate for those who have been overlooked or under-resourced.



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