A Prayer for the Graduate

“We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.”
- 1 Thessalonians 1:2

**is for Gratitude**

Lord, please help our students feel thankful rather than entitled. Teach them to appreciate & use wisely the gifts with which You’ve blessed them. May they invest their time, strength, talents, aptitudes, abilities, and opportunities in ways that glorify You. (Psalm 100:4; 1 Corinthians 4:7, 10:31; Psalm 90:12; Mark 4:25)

**is for Reputation**

God, keep our students mindful that a good name is more valuable than great riches, but that character is even more important than reputation. May they walk in integrity both publicly & privately, honoring You & setting an example in speech, love, faith, & purity. (Prov. 10:9, 22:1; 2 Peter 1:5-6; Rom. 14:8; 1 Tim. 4:12)

**is for Affections**

Keep our students’ hearts pure and their affections centered on You, O Lord. Enable them to love You well & love others as themselves. Protect them against any temptations that would draw them into sin. Give them godly friends who will sharpen rather than snare them. (Col. 3:1-3, Luke 10:27, 11:4; Prov. 27:17; Psalm 1)

**is for Direction**

Guide our students, O God, and make the path straight before them. Help them acknowledge You in all their ways and follow hard in whatever direction You lead. Keep their feet on the straight and narrow way and stay by their side when all others desert them. (Prov. 3:5-6; Matt. 7:13-14; Deuteronomy 31:8; Psalm 23:3-4)

**is for Understanding**

Grant our students wisdom and understanding, Lord. May they have ears to hear, eyes to see, and a heart to serve You. Teach them to love what is good and to shun what is evil, and give them discernment to easily distinguish between the two. (Prov. 2:2-6, 2:10-11, 20:12; Acts 28:27; Mark 4:22-23; Job 28:28)

**is for Aspirations**

God, give our students a clear sense of purpose in life. Align their goals to match Yours; guard them against distraction. May they make it their ambition to please You in everything they do, serving as salt & light as they do their work diligently & cheerfully. (Phil. 2:13-15, 3:14; 2 Cor. 5:9; Col. 3:23; Matt. 5:13-16; 1 Thess. 4:11)

**is for Teachers**

Lord, raise up godly teachers who proclaim the truth. Maintain in our students a humble & teachable spirit, but one that examines everything they are taught in light of Scripture. Keep them grounded in Your Word & teach them to reason with insight and clarity. (Eph. 4:11-12; Prov. 11:2; James 3:13; Psalm 119:98-100)

**is for Endurance**

God, give our students grit & perseverance. Renew their strength. Help them budget their time wisely. Grant them the rest they need to keep a sound mind & healthy body. Guard them against fatigue, discouragement, and depression. (2 Tim. 1:7; Rom. 12:12; Isaiah 40:30-31; Eph. 5:15-16; Psalm 127:2; Joshua 1:9)

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