

## **J1:27 Monthly Prayer Guide**

*This guide will walk you through 12 different groups of people all associated with the foster care system that need each of our prayers. We do so believing that God will hear those prayers and provide more than enough for the children and families in our communities.*

*We also hope that this prayer guide will increase awareness and advocacy for all these groups. Please contact Kat Deal for more information on serving with J1:27 and how to get more involved in Foster Care/Adoption support in our community. (Prayer Guide adapted from Christian Alliance for Orphans)*

### **September**

#### Children in Foster Care

**Pray that children in your community** would know they are loved by God and understand that He desires to be in relationship with them.

**Pray that children in foster care** would experience a feeling of belonging in a foster family, a church community, or a group of friends within your community.

**Pray that God** would lead them as they work through hurt they have experienced in their past and in their present.

### **October**

#### Biological Families

**Pray that biological parents** in your state would have the strength they need to face their circumstances and that they always keep the best interests of their children in mind.

**Pray for the relationships** between biological parents, foster parents, and the foster care system; that biological parents feel heard and that others are able to extend compassion.

**Pray that churches** in your community learn how to support biological families and how to equip them to prepare for reunification with their children.

### **November**

## Churches

**Pray that your church** will surround J1:27 and children who need families.

**Pray that other churches** in your community will seek out Biblical wisdom about children who need families and how to best care for them.

**Pray that churches** in your area will come together to care for children in foster care in order to create movement within your community.

## December

### Foster Parents

**Pray for endurance** and for strength for foster parents in your community as they invite children into their families.

**Pray that your community** would rise up and stand by these parents while encouraging and supporting their needs.

**Pray for peace** and understanding in every relationship — with the foster children, with their biological children, with the biological families of the foster children, with social workers, and with their community.

## January

### Adoptive Parents

**Pray that potential adoptive parents** in your community listen to the Lord's direction as they pursue adoption of a particular child.

**Pray that adoptive parents** would seek Biblical wisdom and the advice of other adoptive parents as they walk with their children through healing.

**Pray that communities and churches** in your area would come around adoptive parents in support and encouragement.

## February

## Child Welfare Professionals

**Pray for the safety** and emotional well being of social workers in your community as they come face to face with difficult situations.

**Pray that churches** in your community would commit to care for and to support child welfare professionals.

**Pray that social workers and administrators** would fight discouragement and burnout by continuously seeking and finding joy, hope, and peace in Christ.

## **March**

### Counselors and Therapists

**Pray that counselors and therapists** in your community would work hard to discover what is best to help children in foster care, foster parents, social workers, birth families, and other individuals involved in foster care.

**Pray that counselors and therapists** would make time to care for their own physical and emotional well-being.

**Pray that therapists** would listen to God's Word and His promises as they help others walk through hardship.

## **April**

### Lawyers and Judges

**Pray that they** would have the eyes to see the specific needs of children in foster care in your community.

**Pray that they** would take an active role in initiating repair of what is broken in families and in the foster care system.

**Pray that they** would seek out Biblical wisdom when defending children.

## **May**

### Law Enforcement Officers

**Pray that the law enforcement officers** in your community would be well equipped to engage in their roles as protectors of the weak, including children who experience abuse or neglect.

**Pray that officers** in your community would have wisdom and empathy as they interact with children who come from hard places.

**Pray for the safety** and emotional well being of law enforcement officers as they come face to face with difficult decisions and experiences on a weekly basis in your community.

## **June**

### **Kinship Caregivers**

**Pray that your church** and your state would support kinship caregivers in your community well, whether they are informal, formal, or voluntary caregivers.

**Pray that these extended family members** would have the emotional, spiritual, financial, and other resources to provide a safe home for children from their family.

**Pray that their relationships** with the children they take in will flourish and bring security and hope into the children's lives.

## **July**

### **Respite Care Providers**

**Pray that just as they provide rest and relief** to foster and adoptive families; that they will also experience rest and relief in their own lives.

**Pray that a large number of individuals** and churches would actively seek to provide respite care for foster and adoptive families in your community.

**Pray that their example** of sacrifice and service would serve as an example to others that anyone can be involved in foster care in some capacity.

## **August**

### **Teachers**

**Pray that teachers** in local schools in your community would be aware of the unique needs children in foster care may have and that teachers would have the tools and knowledge needed to respond to these needs.

**Pray that teachers** at your local schools are able to experience rest and renewal outside of the classroom so that they have the capacity to fully engage with students.

**Pray that teachers**, and foster, adoptive, or birth parents would all make the effort to work together so that children can excel in school.

## **September**

### **Court Appointed Special Advocates**

**Pray that God** would raise up groups of people within your community to become CASA volunteers so that every child has someone to speak up for them in court.

**Pray that CASA volunteers** would be well equipped to support children in foster care and have the knowledge needed to speak up for the children.

**Pray that CASA volunteers** would build meaningful and lasting relationships that would communicate love and worth to children in foster care.