

Young People

Prayers and worship resources on the theme of Young People – updated June 2014



Facing Change

I am approaching a time of change.
I feel sadness and loss, and some fear of the unknown.
But now I realise, Lord, that this stripping back of all I
know is really a gift;
An opportunity to loosen my grip on these things
That I may be free to embrace you more fully and
unhindered.

So lead me on, Lord, with joyful abandon
Into freedom and into You.

*"If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it.
But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save
it."*

Matthew 16:25

© Amanda Pink, *One Life's Liturgy*

Back to School

God of life and love, we thank you for the new
beginning that each day brings. We pray for the young
people who will return to school, for those who are
moving school, and those who are attending school for
the first time. Eclipse anxiety with excitement, that
education may be a truly liberating and joyful
experience.

We pray for parents who breathe a deep sigh of late
summer relief, and for parents who worry on their
child's behalf. Awaken in them an awareness of the
calling of parenthood, and encourage them through the
highs and lows of their privileged ministry.

We pray for young people preparing to leave for
university. Equip them with all that is needed on the
road to independence. As their parents face a miniature
grief, comfort them with the assurance of your
presence with them and their children.

We pray for all who long for a new start. Reveal yourself
to them as the God whose mercy is new every morning.
You who have promised to restore the years the locusts
have eaten, restore to us this day a deep love for you, a
renewed desire to please you, a passion to receive the
future you have planned for us.

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International Youth Day

12 August

Creator God, who brings something out of nothing – we
thank you for the way that your character, your power
and your love are made known amidst weakness,
vulnerability, and powerlessness.

On this International Youth Day, we thank you for the
gift of young people in our midst, and in our world. We
pray that you help us to recognise the authority of the
child, the honest insight of the teenager, the wisdom of
youth. Open our ears again to the way that your voice
falls from the lips of our young people. Open our eyes
to the reflection of ourselves that children offer. Open
our hearts again to the responsibilities with which they
present us.

We think of the plight of young people worldwide. Of
the 7.5 million children who will die needlessly this year,
because of simple human apathy. We think of those
who receive no education, who are forced to flee their
homes because of war, who are malnourished,
orphaned and stricken with preventable disease.
Show us what it means to listen well to young people,
to see the world through their eyes, to hear your voice
in theirs. Show us our responsibilities towards the
young people entrusted to our care.

Lord God, whose Son was born of a pregnant teenager,
who – as a child – taught experts in the temple, and
who never reached middle age, show us who we are as
we listen to the voice of youth.

Mirrors

Lord, help me follow
To follow where you lead and how you lead
Lord, help me follow
To follow when I'm glad and when I'm sad
Lord, help me follow
To follow when it's easy and when it's hard
Lord, help me follow
To follow as who I am and with all I have
Amen

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