

A Litany for Teachers, Leaders, and Students

Leader: As the summer draws to an end and school begins,
Students and teachers prepare to return to school,
Sunday School teachers get ready to start again,
And new families enter our schools and church,

People: Rabbi Jesus, we give You thanks for our teachers, leaders, and students.

Leader: As pencils are sharpened and backpacks are filled,
Back-to-school lists are checked and enrollment forms filled out,
Children prepare to meet their teachers and learn their schedules,
And new students nervously hope to make new friends,

People: We remember the boy Jesus as he stayed behind in the temple, to learn as well as to teach, and so we ask for Your blessing upon our students, that they may grow in understanding and that we may learn from them.

Leader: As papers are stacked and supplies are stocked,
Teachers arrange their classrooms and lesson plans,
Educators give out of their own resources to meet shrinking budgets,
And principals, teacher's aides and lunchroom workers prepare for the first day,

People: We recall Rabbi Jesus who taught thousands of people, who brought the children forward to be first, and who fed five thousand with the bread and fish brought by a child, so we ask for Your blessing upon our teachers, that their resources may be increased, that they can reach out to children in need, and that they may know the love and support of the community surrounding them.

Leader: As curriculum is given to new and seasoned teachers,
Volunteers look forward to each Sunday with joy and a little nervousness,
Ministers, Christian Education Directors and Youth Leaders plan events for the fall,
And the whole church prepares for the re-beginning of Sunday School,

People: Rabbi Jesus, we ask for Your blessing upon our Sunday School teachers and leaders, upon our Ministers and Education Directors, that they may seek Your wisdom and guidance and know the support of the congregation. We ask for Your blessing upon our children, youth and adults who have come to learn more about Your ways, our Scriptures and our church traditions. May we come with an open heart, and may we give of our hearts to support and encourage our volunteers and staff.

All: May we all remember to pray for our teachers and educators, may we lift up our students and the students in our community, and may we reach out to help our students, teachers and schools in need. May we continue to support and encourage our Sunday School through the giving of our talents, time, finances, and of ourselves. Rabbi Jesus, our Teacher and our Savior, we pray all things in Your name. Amen.