

A Prayer for When You're Apart

O God of all things, big and small,
Thank You for looking after us
In our comings and goings.
Though we may not be together
right now,
We know that You go before us,
Guiding us and leading us as we start
each new day.

Thank You for creating a love
So big between us,
Parent and child,
That we have the holy ache
Of missing each other.

When my child is sad,
May You comfort them in their sorrow
And bring someone to wipe their tears
When I cannot.
When they are joyful,
May You be near in their rejoicing
And bring someone to celebrate with them
When I cannot.
When they are afraid,
May You guide them through their fear
And bring someone to soothe them
When I cannot.
Bring us back to each other full of heart,
Brimming with stories and adventures
To share with each other.

Until we meet again,
Help us to focus on
Where You've placed us for the day.
Help us center in on
Who and how You would have us love
On this day.

O Creator of time and place,
You are a God big enough to hold
Every tiny detail of our lives,
And we know You are big enough to be
with us now,
Both parent and child,
As we are apart.

Comfort my child when they are afraid,
And give me the strength to hand my
desire for control
Over to You.

Help me to remember that You alone
are God.
And while You have entrusted this child
to me,
They are Yours and Yours alone.

Thank You for the gift of communication.
Though we may be apart,
We can see each other through a screen.
But we know these replacements can
never measure up
To the warm embrace of *together*.

When my child awakes to a new day,
May they do so surrounded by love.

And when they look up to the moon
 at night,
 May they do so knowing they're held
 By the One who hung the stars.

Bring us safely together soon.
 With bated breath, we anticipate our
 reunion.
 But until we can be with each other again,
 Thank You for the gift of missing
 each other,
 For that means we have loved
 And have known what it is to be loved.
 And as we are apart,
 We pray for the children and parents
 Who by no fault of their own
 Have been separated from each other.

God, grant them supernatural peace
 As they ache for each other.
 May an invisible thread tie them together
 In Your great love.
 Give comfort to the lonely;
 Give hope to the brokenhearted;
 Give peace to the sorrowful.
 We know this world isn't as it should be,
 And we pray that we may work for a day
 When mothers and fathers,
 Daughters and sons
 Will embrace each other
 And wipe away one another's tears
 And be united in
 Heart and mind,
 Body and soul.

As I am apart from my child,
 I pray that You would
 Embrace their heart with Your warmth
 So that they may love those in their path.
 Encourage their soul with Your grace
 So that they may dwell in Your spirit.
 Inspire their mind with Your brilliance
 So that they may know You in all they
 encounter.
 Ignite their strength with Your power
 So that they may live with courage and
 compassion.

We can't wait to be together again,
 And yet You have put us on diverging
 paths.
 So give us strength for the journey,
 And lead us back together again soon.
 Though we miss each other,
 We know we are not alone,
 For You have surrounded us
 With Your everlasting love.
 Amen.

Psalm 121:7-8; Job 9:9