

The Way of Love Back-to-School Blessing For students and educators

THE WAY OF LOVE

Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

Celebrant: All students and educators are invited forward. They may place their backpacks and satchels at the foot of the celebrant.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray

People may kneel or stand

God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Help us to remember that asking the right questions is often as important as giving the right answers.

Today we give you thanks for these your children – students and educators, - and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. May their backpacks and satchels be a sign to them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year in school and in Sunday School.

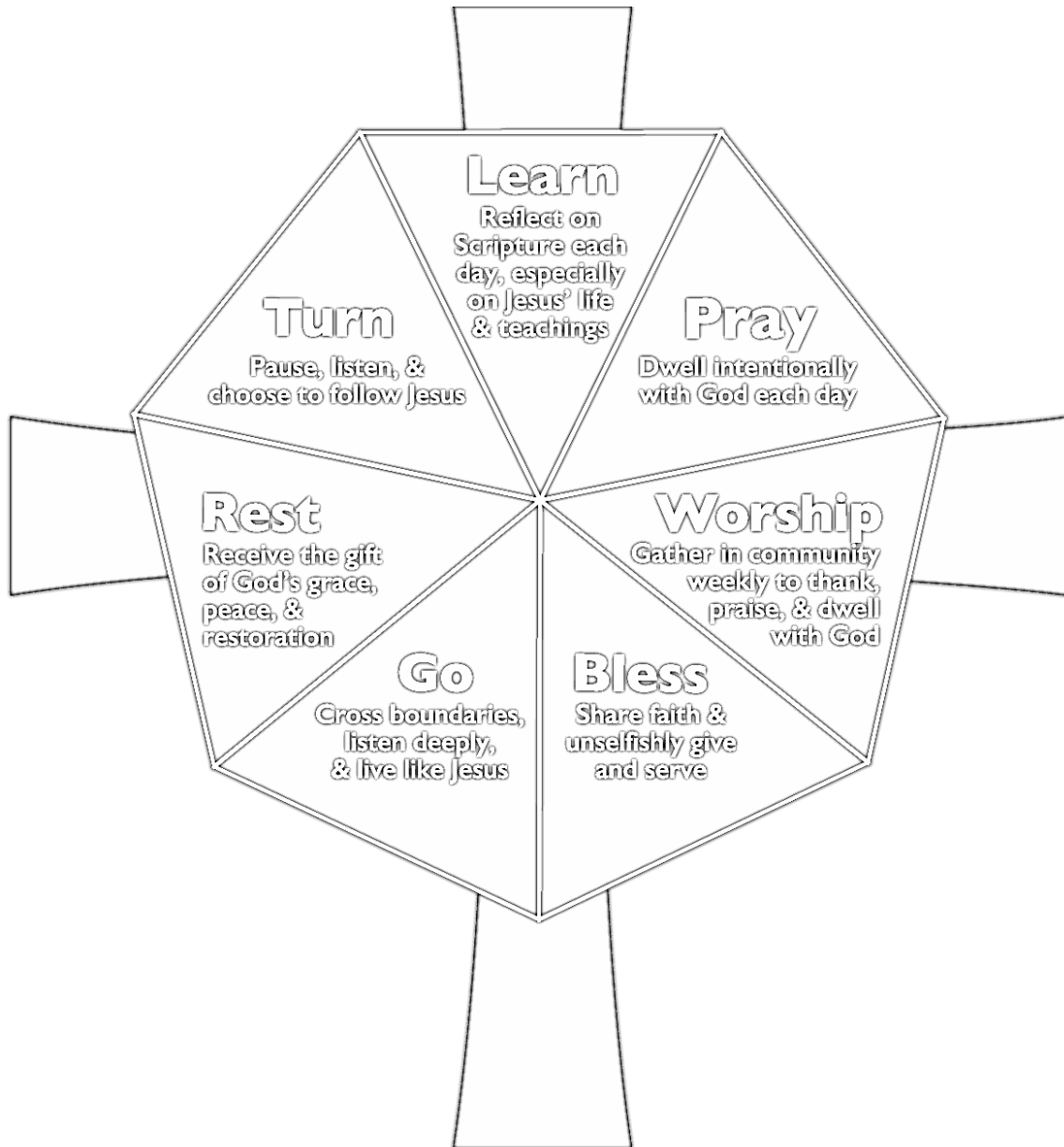
May these tags be a reminder of your presence in their daily lives. May you guide them as they learn to walk the way of love.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us.

Amen.

Students and educators may go back to their seats after taking their tags from ministers.

Prayer modified from Wendy Claire Barrie's prayer from *Skiturgies*
Pageants, Plays, Rites and Rituals for the Church Year from Church Publishing.



The Way of Love Coloring Sheet

Following Jesus can be exciting and confusing. Thankfully we have the 7 practices from The Way of Love to help us grow closer to Jesus and share his light with the world. Color The Way of Love cross and think about which practice you want to try this week!