

# Ways to pray for the 20-Somethings Ministry

By Jen Jones

1. **Pray that God will continue his saving work** in the 20-somethings by increasing sanctification within them.
2. **Pray that God would give the 20-somethings a "spirit of wisdom** and revelation in the knowledge of Him."
3. **Pray for unity.** For the 20-somethings to have a desire to be pure and obedient so their love for each other will be sincere and from the heart. Give them a spirit of unity so they can glorify You with one heart and one voice. Help them accept one another in love.
4. **Pray that God would give the Leadership Team the grace to remain qualified** for the offices they hold.
5. **Pray for humility among the 20-somethings.**
6. For the knowledge of God. Dear God, the Psalmist declares, "Be still, and know that I am God" {Psalm 46:10}. In their busyness, may the 20-somethings have quiet moments in which they think and reflect about God in their lives.
7. **For salvation.** Loving God, the Apostle Paul reminds us that the Gospel "is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes" {Romans 1:16}. Help the 20-somethings learn to trust in You and remain faithfully committed to your ways throughout their lives.
8. **For the Leadership Team.** Gracious God, fill the leaders with sensitivity and insight that they may understand the best ways to guide the ministry so its members may grow in Your wisdom and love.
9. **For kindness of speech.** Gracious God, so many 20-somethings have been deeply wounded because they have been the brunt of criticism and abuse. May our members exhibit kindness in their speech. Let the words of Psalm 19:14 be true for them: "May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight."
10. **To recognize their mistakes.** Dear God, may the 20-somethings recognize when they are wrong and take responsibility where they are at fault. Give them a deep and sincere desire to put things right as quickly as possible.
11. **For love.** Gracious God, let the 20-somethings follow the command of Jesus to "love one another" {John 13:34}. Let them reach out with love to all within their sphere of influence.
12. **For spiritual stability.** Oh God, in times of moral uncertainty and temptation, empower the 20-somethings to exhibit spiritual stability. May the words of Joshua have a firm grip in their hearts: "You are to hold fast to the Lord your God" {Joshua 23:8}.
13. **To help bear burdens.** Loving God, let it be that the 20-somethings are the ones who quickly reach out, helping to lift the burdens of others. Through the leaders' example, may the 20-somethings understand the importance of fulfilling the call of Scripture to "carry each other's burdens. {Gal. 6:2}."
14. **To be instruments of peace.** Gracious God, may the 20-somethings guide their thoughts, words, and actions by the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi: "Make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy."
15. **To celebrate humanity.** Dear God, this world is filled with beautiful people, all of whom are your children. May the 20-somethings be free of discriminatory and judgmental attitudes toward others. Let them appreciate and celebrate the fact that people are red and yellow, black and white, tall and short, fat and thin, rich and poor, young and old.
16. **For spiritual and emotional growth.** Loving God, let the 20-somethings be like Jesus who "grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" {Luke 2:52}.
17. **To be salt and light.** Gracious God, may the 20-somethings learn how to cooperate rather than compete, to respect rather than revile, and to console rather than condemn. Even in their limited circles of influence, may they be "the salt of the earth" and the "light of the world" {Matt. 5:13-14}.

18. **For protection.** Eternal God, as the 20-somethings go out this day may Your loving protection go ahead of them, be behind them, hover over them, and stand beside them. This day protect them from every danger, disease, and trauma.
19. **For faith in times of difficulty.** Dear God, whenever the 20-somethings face trial, trouble, or fear, let them naturally turn to You for guidance and strength. May the 20-somethings know this powerful promise of scripture: "The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms" {Deut. 33:27}.
20. **To remember the marginalized.** Dear God, create in the 20-somethings hearts of love and compassion for those whom society overlooks. Let them understand the importance of this biblical command: "Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering" {Heb. 13:3}.
21. **For growth in grace.** Loving God, day by day and in every way, let the 20-somethings "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" {2 Peter 3:18}.
22. **For contentment.** Loving God, let the 20-somethings cultivate the same spiritual contentment as did the Apostle Paul, who said: "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want" {Phil. 4:11-12}.
23. **To be unselfish.** Gracious God, give the 20-somethings more love, more self-denial, more willingness to sacrifice for others. Let them understand deeply that it is more blessed to give than to receive.
24. **For wisdom.** Loving God, may your spirit be so present in the lives of the 20-somethings that their thoughts are your thoughts and their ideas are your ideas.
25. **To offer confession and seek forgiveness.** Gracious God, may there be in the 20-somethings no propensity for denial of truth and reality. When they err and do wrong, may they offer you confession and seek your forgiveness. Let them take comfort in your word, which says: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" {1 John 1:9}.
26. **To be "clothed" in virtues.** Dear God, may the 20-somethings constantly and consistently be clothed "with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" {Col. 3:12}.
27. **For humility in victory and dignity in defeat.** Dear God, life is made up of valleys and peaks, wins and losses. There will be times when the 20-somethings will make important gains and other times when they will feel the sting of losing. May they have humility in their victory and dignity in defeat.
28. **For appreciation of God's creation.** Loving God, show the 20-somethings how to love all animals, birds, creatures, and all green and growing things. Help them to cherish and protect your creation.
29. **For gratitude.** Dear God, let gratitude, praise, and thanksgiving continuously flow from the lips of the 20-somethings. May they "give thanks in all circumstances" {1 Thess. 5:18}.
30. **For the courage of convictions.** Gracious God, convictions mean nothing unless there is the courage to stand up for them. May the 20-somethings "be strong and courageous" {Joshua 1:6}, standing up for those treated unkindly and unjustly.
31. **For emotional and spiritual strength.** Eternal God, whenever the 20-somethings feel the pain of rejection by friends or feel they are the objects of ridicule, infuse them with emotional and spiritual strength. May they always remember that you are the strength of the weak, the refreshment of the weary, and the comforter of the heartbroken.
32. **To be joyful Catholic Christians.** God, bless the 20-somethings with the spirit of joy. May they smile naturally, laugh easily, rejoice in your gifts large and small. Let the words of the Psalmist resound in their lives: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" {Psalm 118:24}.

33. **To be free from materialism.** Gracious God, even let the 20-somethings be free from materialism. May they enjoy their benefits, privileges, and material possessions without the constant clamor for more and more and more. And, should they be blessed with wealth, may they know the importance of sharing and using their abundance to bless others.
34. **For peace and justice.** Eternal God, nurture in the 20-somethings a love for the many people who live in poverty and misery. Arouse in their hearts a deep and abiding hunger for justice and peace.
35. **To be filled with hope.** Loving God, no matter what may befall the 20-somethings, may they be so filled with hope that it prevents any despair from taking hold. With the Apostle I pray that you, "the God of hope" {Romans 15:13}, will fill them with all joy and peace.
36. **For perseverance.** Dear God, keep the 20-somethings from becoming impatient and quitting prematurely. Develop within them endurance and perseverance so that when faced with major challenges and crises they do not easily give up. Let the 20-somethings be "joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" {Romans 12:12}.
37. **For a passionate love of God.** Gracious God, cultivate in the 20-somethings a passion to love and serve you. May they have the same kind of passionate love for you as did this Psalm writer: "I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. I will be glad and rejoice in you" {Psalms 9:1-2}.
38. **For generosity of spirit.** Loving God, instill in the 20-somethings a desire to give of themselves. May they always be honorable in action, sincere in words, and gentle in their treatment of others.
39. **To be forgiving.** Eternal God, fill the 20-somethings with the spirit of forgiveness. Whenever they are hurt, may they naturally forgive and thereby free themselves from the burden of resentment. May they take seriously this word from the Apostle: "Forgive as the Lord forgave you" {Col. 3:13}.
40. **To have a teachable spirit.** Gracious God, infuse in each of the 20-somethings the awareness that the world is filled with teachers. May they see others as being sent by you into their lives to teach them to learn better patience, greater love, more compassion.
41. **For the wise use of their talents.** Loving God, thank you for filling the 20-somethings with numerous gifts, talents, and abilities. As they age, let them exercise wisdom in using their gifts to help others.
42. **To be honest.** Gracious God, let the 20-somethings always exhibit honesty of conduct and honesty of speech. May there be nothing deceitful in what they say and do. Instill in them the awareness that life flows more smoothly when it is built around honesty.
43. **To practice hospitality.** Eternal God, may the 20-somethings be open and affirming of all others. May they be the ones who reach out, embracing those who are left out or left behind.
44. **To be faithful in prayer.** Gracious and loving God, help the 20-somethings to live lives punctuated by prayer. With the Apostle may they "pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests" {Eph. 6:18}. May they be persistent and powerful in their praying.
45. **For our Leadership Team when ministry gets tough.** Help them remain faithful with the things you've entrusted to them.
46. Appoint worship leaders who stand in awe before the splendor of Your holiness. Use their praise to defeat the enemy. May they be true worshipers who worship in spirit and truth. Let them glory on in You, Jesus.
47. May every speaker / teacher correctly handle Your word of truth, admonishing and teaching wisely. Let them speak with faith that springs from relationship with You.
48. Let our small group leaders set examples in speech, life, love, faith and purity. Cause them to be strong, alive-in-the-Word overcomers. Give them discernment to deal with troubled 20-somethings as they teach them Your life-giving principles.
49. Thank You for every behind-the-scenes worker who is devoted to service. Bless them for their obedience and generosity – may You receive praise as a result! Reward them for serving you humbly and wholeheartedly rather than seeking to be noticed by others.

50. Increase our number through new members. Let the 20-somethings present the gospel with power, the Holy Spirit and deep conviction through our lives to the 20-somethings around us who have no church home. Teach the 20-somethings to make the most of every opportunity as they spread everywhere the fragrance of Christ.
51. May the 20-somethings sow generously into their churches without reluctance or compulsion. Make grace abound so they have the finances they need to do every good work You've assigned us. Make them rich in ways that result in generosity so You will be praised.
52. Revive the 20-somethings so they burn hot for You. Give them singleness of heart and action that they may always fear You and follow Your precepts. Open their minds to Your Word and set their hearts ablaze within them.