

We are in the midst of the second week of school (the first full week for all students). We have new teachers and some new administration. There is road work causing chaos for drop off and pick up. There are changes to routines, new expectations, and maybe even some nerves for the students and teachers alike. And none of that has gone unnoticed by me. I mean, I can not imagine what it is like to be a teacher. It takes a special breed, a heart created by God. I do not want the job of an administrator either. The decisions that need to be made have wide and lasting implications, and it is hard to please everyone. And our students, well, school expectations and drama was never like this when I was growing up. I think about all of this, and I am driven to me knees in prayer. Would you please join me? It is easy to be critical of teachers and administration, but more than anything, they need your prayers. The following is a prayer/poem I wrote for the beginning of the school year in 2019 while serving in Western Washington, and it is still applicable today. So, let us join together in prayer:

Father God,

Students and teachers have returned to the classroom.

So much excitement.

So many nerves

Please hear my prayer as they all resume.

There will be reading and writing and arithmetic too.

Spelling, science, and all things new.

There will be friends and lunch and games galore.

There will be all of that and so much more.

Routines will be changing.

Schedules will get busy.

Sometimes all of this can make one feel dizzy.

So, Father God, hear my prayer,

and bless our children here and there.

Bless their teachers.

Bless their year.

Guide them so they will not fear.

Keep them safe, Lord, every busload.

Bless all drivers who share the road.

Bless our children here and now.

May this year cause them to say "Wow!"

Amen :-)

When it comes to our school, pray, pray, and pray some more. To God be the glory, in Jesus' name, Amen.