

Personal Prayers

Ideas for Parents of B'nai Mitzvah

O God of all humanity:

We lift our voices in gratitude that the Torah has come into the world through the Jewish people.

We lift our voices in gratitude for the ideals it teaches: justice; compassion; devotion; the partnership of mind, heart, and deed.

We lift our voices in gratitude that our son/daughter today takes his/her place among the people of Israel. We pray that he/she will do so with pride and joy.

As You called Israel to be a light to the nations, so, too, we pray that our son/daughter will be his/her own ray of light to the world.



In the midst of this community, we gather as our child becomes a messenger of the Most High, and bearer of the sacred tradition of the Jewish people.

May he/she always cherish this precious inheritance that comes into his/her hands.

May his/her heart always be filled with joy.

His/her mind with wisdom and insight.

His/her lips with kindness.

And may he/she be a worthy sustainer of the teachings of Torah.

That have given light, meaning, and inspiration to all humanity.



May you live to see your world fulfilled,
May your destiny be for worlds still to come,
And may you trust in generations past and yet
to be.

May your heart be filled with intuition
and your words be filled with insight.

May songs of praise ever be upon your tongue
and your vision be on a straight path before you.

May your eyes shine with the light of holy words
and your face reflect the brightness of the heavens.

May your lips speak wisdom
and your fulfillment be in righteousness
even as you ever yearn to hear the words
of the Holy Ancient One of Old.

Talmud Berachot 17a

A Blessing

Danny Siegel, inspired by Talmud Berachot 17a

May your eyes sparkle with the light of Torah,
Any your ears hear the music of its words.
May the space between each letter of the scrolls
Bring warmth and comfort to your soul.
May the syllables draw holiness from your heart,
And may this holiness be gentle and soothing
To the world.
May your study be passionate,
And meanings bear more meanings
Until Life itself arrays itself to you
As a dazzling wedding feast.
And may your conversation,
Even of the commonplace,
Be a blessing to all who listen to your words
And see the Torah glowing on your face.



We pray that this service may long echo in our child's memory. May it engrave on the table of his/her heart the understanding that this day initiates a life more firmly dedicated to the study of Torah and the fulfillment of mitzvot, to deeds of justice and kindness and support for the People of Israel.

O God, make each of us a worthy example to our children. Let nothing estrange us from them and from You, the Source of all goodness and compassion. Help us again and again to renew our attachment to the Covenant of Israel, to walk hand in hand with our child in the ways of righteousness and truth. Amen.



A Prayer
O God, we have tendered
With hope this seed
Of your youth.
We have watched
From springtime
The ripening and growth.
Now come the harvest days
And our child stands before You.
Bless this life with wisdom
To serve You with love.