

Constellation Prayers

By Jolene Roehlkepartain



Pray together late at night when the stars shine bright. Find constellations in the night sky to mark your time together.

For
Teen Family

Season
Summer

Needed

Bible, bookmarks or slips of paper, computer, Internet access, flashlight with fresh batteries

Prepare in Advance

Place bookmarks in your Bible at Psalm 147:4, Psalm 136:2, 7-9, and Isaiah 40:26. Access this website: [University Lowbrow Astronomers Observer's Guide](#).

Activity Plan

1. Pray aloud to begin:

O God, widen our view so we can grow in appreciating everything you have created. Amen.

2. From your Bible or from the text below, ask someone to read aloud Psalm 147:4. Have another family member read aloud Psalm 136:2, 7-9 and another read aloud Isaiah 40:26. After hearing the verses, discuss how these biblical writers perceive God's work in creation.

Psalm 147:4: "He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names."

Psalm 136:2, 7-9: "Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever . . . to him who made the great lights, for his steadfast love endures forever; the sun to rule over the day . . . the moon and stars to rule over the night, for his steadfast love endures forever."

Isaiah 40:26: "Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing."

3. Talk about constellations. Together, view the website [University Lowbrow Astronomers Observer's Guide](#) to learn more about constellations in the night sky.

4. Gather as a family on a cloudless night when you can see lots of stars and constellations. If you live too close to city lights, try to go to an area where it's darker, so you can see more stars. Take a flashlight and a copy of this activity.
5. Look for constellations together. Which ones do you see?
6. After you find one constellation, have a family member use the flashlight to read the following prayer:
God, we marvel at the night sky, the millions of stars, the constellations they create. Thank you for creating a universe of wonder. Amen.
7. After you find another constellation, have another family member use the flashlight to read the following prayer:
God, bless the connections in our family, the relationships between each person, and also our family as a whole. Help us to see the strengths our family gives to each one of us. Amen.
8. After you find another constellation, have another family member use the flashlight to read the following prayer:
God, bless the constellations and connections in our lives—the connections we find among people, the connections we discover among our interests, and the connection you have with us. Amen.
9. Gazing at a starry sky often makes people reflective. Take a few moments of quiet for family members to contemplate what they want to pray for, for themselves and for others. Encourage them to say their prayers aloud.

