



20 Upside-Down Prayers for My Children

By Lisa T. Bergren

I pray you'll get caught doing things wrong—before they get too big

I pray you'll fail—in things that don't matter

I pray you'll have to say you're sorry—and get really good at it, so that when the time's right, you can always find the courage to say the words

I pray you'll cry, really hard—so you feel free to express both tears of anguish and tears of joy

I pray you'll sweat—and learn what it means to work really hard for something you want or to reach a goal or to cross a finish line

I pray you'll get lost—and discover you have the Compass within to help you find your way

I pray you'll get weary—enough to know that you can't do everything on your own strength

I pray you'll give up—and rely on God for your strength

I pray you'll experience unanswered prayers—and discover deeper, wider trust

I pray you'll feel foolish—and realize we're all nothing, without Christ

I pray you'll suffer heartbreak—and grow in the discovery of how your Creator can use *all* things for good

I pray you'll be shattered—and be reborn in the Spirit

I pray you'll be near-sighted—unable to see anything but God, right beside you

I pray you'll be far-sighted—unable to see anything but God, right there on the horizon

I pray you'll lose a job—and know that your Provider is ever present

I pray you'll brush up against death—and recognize that this is not the end

I pray you'll have to wait—and learn the value of patience

I pray you'll be deaf—to all but the Father's voice

I pray you'll be scared—of living without God in your life

I pray you'll take crazy risks—and dare to adventure where your Shepherd leads

Amen.

Lisa Tawn Bergren is the best-selling author of fifteen books, including [The Busy Mom's Devotional](#), [What Women Want](#), and the [God Gave Us](#) children's book series. She makes her very-messy-but-cozy home in Colorado with her husband, Tim, and their two daughters.

