

## Revitalize: Peace for the New School Year

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid.” John 14:27*

This is one of my favorite verses to pray for other people. I pray it a lot over the phone to folks that are in the midst of crisis. I especially prayed it over my daughters as they panicked about a test or a job interview or any number of things that would cause them to freak out.

As the new school year starts there will be many people in panic and crisis mode. Students moving from elementary to middle school, middle school to high school or high school to college, are experiencing that fear of the new and unknown. Parents putting little ones in preschool or kindergarten are nervous for their babies. Parents sending a child to a distant college have fear for their child and anticipate that empty space in their home and lives. Even teachers are nervous. What kind of students will they have this year? Will the new schedule/curriculum/colleague, etc work out?

The beginning of the new school year is fraught with anxiety. So let us all remember to pray peace, unlike the world gives or has. Pray peace, a precious gift from our Lord Jesus, for all the students, parents, and teachers and staff this year.

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