



January 2009 Devotion
Preparing for Service in Child Welfare - Concordia University Texas

- Leader:** We begin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen
- Christ reached out to children in his ministry on earth saying “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom belongs to such as these” (Mark 10:14). Children are a precious gift of God. Sadly, some children have experienced abuse, neglect or abandonment by their parents.
- All:** **Almighty Lord, raise up caring, dedicated individuals to work with these children.**
- Leader:** The number of children in foster care has doubled in the last two decades.
- All:** **Precious Savior, watch over the children in foster care and provide safe homes for them.**
- Leader:** Welfare workers who have been trained in a Christian environment are greatly needed.
- All:** **Bless the efforts of Concordia University Texas to educate students to work with vulnerable children.**
- Leader:** A growing number of the children come from ethnically diverse backgrounds.
- All:** **Heavenly Father, grant the students understanding and sensitivity as they work with children from a variety of cultures.**
- Leader:** This grant will enable students to receive educational, spiritual and vocational training to prepare them for service to vulnerable children.
- All:** **Jesus took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.**
(Mark 10:16)
- Leader:** Let us pray: Merciful Father, you have called the church to minister to the needy with mercy. Just as Jesus gathered the little children in His arms and blessed them, we ask you to bless the efforts of Concordia University Texas as they prepare students for service in child welfare. Give them a heart for working with children who have experienced abuse, neglect or abandonment. Grant them the wisdom to address issues facing children from ethnically diverse backgrounds. We pray in your merciful name. Amen.
- All sing:** *Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
All are precious in His sight,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.*