

A TCK Graduation Prayer

Our students are what we call “third culture kids” (special note: this does *not* mean a child living in a third world country). “TCKs” is a term used to describe children who are growing up in a country different from their passport countries or their parents’ culture. For example, Kobe Bryant lived in Italy when he was 6-13 years old. Missionary kids are a subset of TCKs. Eric Liddell, an Olympian whose story was showcased in the movie *Chariots of Fire*, was born in China to his Scottish missionary parents. He spent his life traversing among China, England, and Scotland.

We are sending off 42 graduating seniors at Faith Academy. While this is a smaller class than normal, it in no way indicates our pride for these students. If anything, we as teachers can celebrate them more — offering personalized attention and encouragement as half their high school career was online.

Would you join us this month in praying this prayer for our graduates?



Students from Germany (2) and the USA (2)

A Liturgy for Loving Our Graduating TCKs

*O God, thank you that we can call you Father
 For today that is who we need you to be-
 A loving parent who can guide us through this
 Incredibly challenging task of commissioning our graduating TCKs*

*In our insufficiency remind us that we are simply stewards of
 These precious gifts we call our Seniors
 And that your love for them and your plans for them
 Far exceed our own.
 For before we knew them, they were your children.*

*Lord there is much asked of these Seniors who grow up
 In between worlds
 And as much as it can be a gift, it is also a sacrifice.
 Would you let our graduates know today, that you see what it's
 cost them.
 And reassure them (and us) that you are worth it.*

*Holy Father, in this time- would you be near to their hearts Would
 you speak to their minds
 Would you hold tight their hands
 Even as we hold tight right now to yours.*

*Have mercy, O Christ-
 Fill every deep loneliness with the comfort of your Spirit.
 That they would know the indescribable joy of belonging to you.*

*Lord give us wisdom to know practical ways to care for them and
 meet their needs.
 While always pointing them towards the only One who truly can.*

*When they feel hidden, may they know you see them
 When they feel rejected, may they know you accept them. When
 they feel misunderstood, may they know you understand them.
 When they feel lost, **may they know that you are with them to the
 ends of the earth.***

*And as they wonder where they truly fit in
 And if they will ever feel at home
 May their travels and wandering ever lead them to cling to the
 hope of heaven and a home in Christ
 Where no adaptation is needed and we can exhale deeply
 For we simply---belong.*

**Credit: @liturgiesforlifeabroad*

Thank you for being a part of praying for our Faith Academy graduates! We appreciate you.

*Dennis, Evangeline,
 LINCOLN, & EDEN*