## THE LOORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU

Lord, thank You for every teacher as they begin this new school year. Thank You for their ministry to Your children. Sustain them in health: strong in body, mind and spirit to move in faith, patience, and with expectation. **Protect** them and keep them. *Encourage* them to behold the beauty of Your holiness. **Bless** their ears to hear the lovely, the uplifting, and the encouraging, and to shut out the demeaning and the negative. Cause their feet to walk in holiness and their steps ordered by You. **Bless** their hands to be tender-helping hands to those in need, hands that bless. May their hearts be humble and receptive to those around them. May their minds be strong, disciplined, balanced and faith-filled. Your grace be upon their homes and classrooms that they may be havens of rest and renewal, sanctuaries of peace where the sounds of joy and laughter grace each room, where love and unconditional acceptance is never ending. Father God, grant success and prosperity in their places of ministry and life. May goodness and mercy follow each precious teacher all the days of their long, healthy lives. Lord bless them and keep them. Make Your face shine upon them, and be gracious to them. Lord lift up Your countenance upon them and give them peace. In the name of Lord Jesus Christ we pray. AMEN.

