**“O God Guide me, protect me. Make of me a shining lamp and a brilliant star. Thou art the Mighty and the Powerful.”** –Abdu’l-Baha

Guide:

1. John is lost and cannot find his way home. Soon, he meets a friend who shows him the way. The friend guides John to his home.
2. Sunita is very sad because she does not know whether to study or to look for work. She asks her parents for their opinion. They give her good advice. They guide Sunita.

God is our best friend and he loves us more than we love ourselves; that is why we say in this prayer, “O God, guide me.” **Towards what does God guide us?** (towards what is best for us)

Protect:

1. We are outside and it starts to rain, so we run and stand under a roof. The roof protects us.
2. The sun is bright, so Abbie puts on a hat. The hat protects her eyes from the bright sun.
3. Our parents protect us from people with bad intentions.

God is our True Protector; that is why we pray, “O God…protect me.”

Where there is no light, there is darkness. Where there is darkness, we cannot see and we become lost. A lamp can give off light, but someone has to turn it on. Our hearts are like a lamp, which can give off spiritual light- that is why we pray for Him to make us a shining lamp.

God has given us lots of virtues in our hearts- all those special qualities like love, kindness, service, peacefulness, joy- and He wants us to be like brilliant stars, shining out those gifts of virtues to the world- and guiding the world of humanity- so we ask Him to make us brilliant stars.

Finally we end the prayer saying that God is the Mighty and Powerful.

**SING the prayer together** (set to music by Julie Iraninejad and Shabnam Cyrus on the Tender Years CD available at: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/tender-years-musical-compilation-bahai-prayers-sacred/id312454924>)