



Praying for My Child

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*"But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting
On those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children,
To such as keep His covenant, And to those who remember
His commandments to do them" (Psalm 103:17-18).*

*"He will not refuse to hear the parents' **earnest prayer**, that is seconded by persevering labor, that their children may be blessed of him and become faithful workers in his cause. When parents do their duty in God's appointed way, they may be sure that their requests for his help in their home work will be granted."*

Signs of the Times, May 4, 1888.

*"With joy unutterable, parents see the crown, the robe, the harp, given to their children. The days of hope and fear are ended. The seed sown **with tears and prayers** may have seemed to be sown in vain but their harvest is reaped with joy at last. Their children have been redeemed." Child Guidance, p. 569*

~ When I Pray for My Children ~

When I enter into a prayer partnership with God, I acknowledge His interest and concern for every detail in the lives of myself, my family, and my friends. I am seeking His presence so that I may experience His love and extend it to others. By inviting Him to share in my life and circumstances, I unite myself in His purpose for my family. When I seek God's help, I confess that I cannot do anything without Him. The seeking of God's presence releases the power He wants to use to overcome the challenges that are always before us. When I pray for my children, I ask God to make His presence a part of their lives and work powerfully on their behalf. I must be committed to persevere in my prayers and to believe that whatever I ask for according to the will of God will be given to me. The answer may not come at once. When I pray for my children, God is already beginning to answer. **It is never too late to start.**

~ How to Pray for My Child ~

1. I invest time in my own personal prayer life.
 2. I regularly let my kids hear me pray for them and others.
 3. I fill a journal with loving prayers for my child.
 4. I choose to be transparent, open, honest, and willing to admit my mistakes.
 5. I memorize Scripture and pray the promises for my kids.
 6. I show them how to cultivate their relationship with God.
 7. I partner with them in prayer for the things that matter to them.
 8. I help them grow a world vision so that they see the immense possibilities God has for them.
 9. I look for opportunities that will stretch their spiritual experience.
 10. I ask for God's guidance to pray the right things for them.
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~ Praying for My Child's Uniqueness ~

My child is precious and unique, so I ask God to help me recognize his or her individuality and pray for them in a way that helps them become the person God made them to be.

1. **Temperament:** Is he or she fast or slow-paced, people-oriented or task-oriented, introverted or extroverted, intense or easygoing?
2. **Talents and aptitudes:** Is he or she musical? Mechanical? Linguistic? Artistic?
3. **Spiritual gifts:** If a believer, does he or she demonstrate gifts of mercy? Leadership? Wisdom? Discernment? Etc.
4. **Calling:** Perhaps he or she is called to be a communicator, a shepherd, a teacher, a leader, a mother or father, a worshiper, a manager, or a warrior.
5. **Capacity:** Has he or she been assigned a large sphere of influence or a small one? Is she a multitasker or single-focused? Can he handle large amounts of detail and input at once, or does he need to receive instructions one or two at a time?

(Adapted from Cheryl Sacks, *Prayer Saturated Kids*, p. 27-28)

I also consider:

- What do they dream of during the day?

- What do they think about becoming when they are an adult?
- What do they believe God wants them to do/be?
- What type of boyfriend or girlfriend do they like?
- What is the best part of the school day, and what is the worst?

(Adapted from *The Blessing*, by Gary Smalley and John Trent)

~ Preparing My Heart for Effective Intercession ~

- I commit to an unselfish spirit, unconditional love, and sacrifice on my part.
 - I relinquish my desires and plans for my children's lives to a concerned and loving God in exchange for His desires and plans for my children's lives.
 - I am willing to allow God to change me into the person He desires me to be so that He might bless my relationship with my children. I desire for Him to renew my mind and teach me to be a good parent.
 - I find a partner for support in my prayers, for "two are stronger than one" (Ecclesiastes 4:12).
 - I believe that the prayers of a righteous, loving parent have "great power and produce wonderful results" (James 5:16).
 - I persevere when the answers do not come. I never give up praying for my child.
 - I pray with faith, believing that God is not willing that any should be lost and that He has a plan for my child's life that is better than anything I could ask or think.
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~ I Pray For ~

- I ask God to remove any lack of forgiveness and wrongful attitudes I may be harboring towards my child.
 - I ask God to cleanse me of sins in my past that could be passed on to my child.
 - I pray for specific needs in my child's life. I make a detailed list.
 - I pray using God's Word as my weapon.
 - I ask God to give me a verse to fit my child's needs.
 - I claim the many promises He has freely given for my child.
 - I put my child's name in those verses.
 - I pray a blessing for my child.
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~ Specific Prayers & Scriptures to Pray for My Children ~

(Unless otherwise stated, all Scriptures are taken from the New King James Version.)

I pray that I will be the parent that my child needs. Lord, change me!

- “Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4).
- “You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you” (John 15:16).
- “The righteous lead a blameless life; blessed are their children after them” (Proverbs 20:7 NIV).
- “Direct my steps by Your word, and let no iniquity have dominion over me.” (Psalm 119: 133).

I pray that my child will experience the joy of the Lord.

- “Beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness” (Isaiah 61:3).
- “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).
- “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you and that your joy may be full” (John 15:10-11).
- “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness” (Isaiah 61:10).

I pray that my child will feel loved and accepted.

- “I have chosen you and not cast you away” (Isaiah 41:9).
- “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this; while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).
- “ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38, 39).

I pray for my child’s relationship with God.

- “We have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the

knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you ^f to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.” (Colossians 1:9-12 NIV).

- “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all” (1 Timothy 2:3-6).

I pray for my child to have a sound mind.

- “Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy— meditate on these things” (Philippians 4:8).
- “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:2).
- “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

I pray for my child to be protected.

- “Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses. He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions” (Psalm 107:16).
- “He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord. “He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust” (Psalm 91:1-2).

I pray a blessing for my child.

- Child’s name_____ “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace” (Numbers 6:24, 25).

Other areas of my child's life that I want to pray for:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

I will ask God to give me appropriate Scriptures to claim for each of the above needs in my child's life.

~ A Prayer For My Child ~

(Place your child's name in the blank spaces.)

Father, I come to you in Jesus name and give my child, _____ to you. I ask that you fulfill your purpose for _____. Do not abandon the works of your hand, for your Word promises that your love endures forever. You have searched _____, and you know his/her heart. You discern his/her going out, and you are familiar with all _____ ways. To know that you hem _____ in behind and before, that you have laid your hand upon _____ is such a comfort. I thank you for your promise that there is nowhere _____ can go to flee from your Spirit. You are everywhere _____ is, and you have promised to guide _____ with your hand and to hold _____ fast with your right hand. I trust that you will keep my child from wandering from you and safe from evil. I praise you because _____ is fearfully and wonderfully made. You know her days. I surrender my child and his/her future to you and relinquish my desires for my child in exchange for yours, knowing that yours are far better than mine. **I thank you for the gift of this child.**