
FAMILY PRAYER GUIDE

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

LUKE 18:1

FAMILY
PRAYER
GUIDE

The Challenge of Parenting

“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord his power, and the wonders he has done... so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds But would keep his commands. They would not be like their forefathers a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to Him.

Psalm 78:4b, 6-8

“Show me your way, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior and my hope is in you all day long.”

Psalm 25:4, 5

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me lead me in the everlasting way.”

Psalm 139:23, 24

Statements On Prayer From Godly Men

“Every believer should go into the School of Prayer with Christ and actually learn the secret of prayer, the precious ministry of intercession. Praying is the best school in which to learn to pray. We can read all the books that have ever been written about prayer, but until we actually choose by an act of our will, to pray, we will never learn.”

E. M. Bounds

“It would be well to remember the more we pray, the more power we have in prayer. Faith is not like gasoline; in danger of running out if we go too far. It is more like a muscle which strengthens from practice. Prayer is not overcoming God’s reluctance, it is laying hold of God’s willingness.”

Richard Trench, Archbishop of Dublin

“Prayer is the language of a man burdened with a sense of need. It is the voice of the beggar, conscious of his poverty, asking of another the things he needs. Not to pray is not only to declare there is nothing needed, but to admit your failure to recognize how needy you really are.”

E. M. Bounds

“Prayer reminds us of our constant need for God and reassures us of His presence with us. Prayer is part of God’s plan for our growth and for His program and plan for world redemption. In prayer we don’t tell God what to do; we find out what He wants us to do.”

David Hubbard

“Prayer is the key that unlocks all the storehouses of God’s infinite grace and power. All that God is, and all that God has, is at the disposal of prayer.”

R. A. Torrey

Proverbs

15:1-15 (NLT)

1. A gentle answer turns away wrath, but harsh words stir up anger.
2. The wise person makes learning a joy; fools spout only foolishness.
3. The Lord is watching everywhere, keeping His eyes on both the evil and the good.
4. Gentle words bring life and health; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.
5. Only a fool despise a parent's disciplines; whoever learns from correction is wise.
6. There is treasure in the house of the godly, but the earnings of the wicked bring trouble.
7. Only the wise can give good advice; fools cannot do so.
8. The lord hates the sacrifices of the wicked; fools cannot do so.
9. The Lord despises the way of the wicked, but He loves those who pursue godliness.
10. Whoever abandons the right path will be severely punished; whoever hates correction will die.
11. Even the depths of death and destruction are known by the Lord. How much more does He know the human heart.
12. Mockers don't love those who rebuke them, so they stay away from the wise.
13. A glad heart makes a happy face; a broken heart rushes the spirit.
14. A wise person is hungry for truth, while the fool feeds on trash.
15. For the poor, every day brings trouble; for the happy heart, life is a continual feast.

A Prayer For Your Marriage

Lord, I pray that you would establish in us bonds of love that cannot be broken. Show us how to love each other in an ever-deepening way that we each can perceive. May we have mutual respect and admiration for each other so that we become and remain one another's greatest friend, champion, and supporter. Where love has been diminished, lost, destroyed, or buried under hurt and disappointment, put it back in our hearts. Give us strength to hold on to the good in our marriage, even when one of us does not feel love.

Enable us to forgive each other quickly and completely. Help us to be kind to one another, tenderhearted, and forgiving---the way you were to us. Teach us to overlook the faults and weaknesses of the other. Give us a sense of humor, especially as we deal with the hard issues of life.

Help us to be of the same mind, to move together in harmony, and to quickly come to mutual agreements about our finances, our children, how we spend our time, and any other decisions that need to be made. Adjust our perspectives to align with Yours. Make our communication open and honest so that we avoid misunderstandings.

May we have the grace to be tolerant of each other's faults and, at the same time, have the willingness to change. Remind us to take time for one another so that our marriage will be a source of happiness, peace and joy for both of us as well as being a model for others.

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Praying for Your Family

1. Pray that they will come to understand how much God loves them. *Ephesians 3:17,18*
2. Pray that they will be drawn to the Scriptures for daily guidance and strength. *II Timothy 3:16*
3. Pray that they will allow the Lord to be in control in their marriage. *Psalms 127:14*
4. Pray that they will not be deceived by the culture that presents things, pleasure and self-seeking as the means to a successful life. *Proverbs 21:21*
5. Pray for any financial, physical, and emotional problems that may exist. *I Peter 5:7*
6. Pray that the Holy Spirit will have freedom to move and act in the life of each family member. *Romans 8:6,7*
7. Pray that they will learn to “trust in the Lord” and lean not on their understanding.” *Proverbs 3:5,6*
8. Pray that each child would grow to love God, serving Him and walking with Him daily. *Psalms 25:4,5*
9. Pray that they will have the gift of discernment as they choose between the good, better, and the best in their decision-making. *Philippians 1:9,10*
10. Pray that the family will give themselves to regular worship each week in a local church. *Hebrews 10:25*

Now let me give an example of this method that might be appropriate as you walk:

- Father, would you give this household the understanding and will to obey you rather than the customs and ideas of men and culture
- Father, help me not to have a judgmental spirit as I relate to each family, but to be accepting and loving.
- Lord, help this family know that you are aware of their troubles and long to ease their pain with your loving Spirit.
- May this family recognize that the desire of Your heart is to bless them and give them hope. May they seek You with all their heart.
- May each family allow the Spirit to draw them to attendance to church and begin a pattern of worship.
- May each family indeed, “Seek first the Kingdom of God” and allow Him to meet all their needs.
- Pray that each family would truly “trust the Lord with all their heart and lean not on their own understanding.”

As you walk, remind yourself that they are deeply loved by the Father. The children you see deserve to see the love of God on display in their families. They deserve the chance to learn about the love Jesus has for them.

Every family in your neighborhood deserves to have someone praying for them!

Praying For Families In Your Neighborhood

In the beginning God declared that it was not good that man be alone. So in his wisdom He established the family. Marriage and the family is being redefined by culture today. But in the beginning it was intended that the family would be constituted to bring children into the world and to so live together that they would paint a picture of God's love and a means to demonstrate His character, bringing glory to Him.

Think of your own needs—relationship within your own family—struggles, conflicts, etc. These are similar to everyone.

The greatest need any one has is to know the Father's love and his forgiveness. Therefore, pray that each home will be drawn to God through Jesus Christ and seek Him with all their heart.

- Pray that each family and individual will recognize areas of sin and disobedience in their life and repent.
- Pray that the family would not allow material things to be their goal in life.
- Pray that barriers in the home would be broken down so that the Holy Spirit can speak to their hearts and draw them to Jesus.
- Pray that every form of abuse, whether it is verbal, substance, or physical, be removed and a climate of love develop.
- Pray that the family might be good stewards of their lives and not rob God of themselves or their possessions.
- Pray that more and more people on the street would believe in Jesus and follow Him as Lord.

The Lord's Prayer for Families

Our Father

Pray that each member of the household would come to know God as Father.

Which art in Heaven

Pray that they will be in heaven with you.

Hallowed (Holy) Be thy name.

Pray that the family will have a reverence for the name of God and learn to fear Him

Thy Kingdom come

The Kingdom of God refers to the rule and reign of God. Pray, therefore, that God will be in control in the hearts and in the decisions of each family member.

Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.

Pray that God will have freedom to act and move in the hearts of each family member. Pray that each heart will be softened to hear the voice of God and obey.

Give us this day our daily bread

Pray for the physical and financial provisions of the family—for wisdom in use of income and freedom from enslavement to debt.

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Pray for a forgiving spirit among each family member, especially between husband and wife. Pray that they will seek God's forgiveness of their sins.

And lead us not into temptation

Pray that they will not be deceived by Satan and be led astray by his subtle devices. Pray for strength to resist temptation and to avoid those areas where they are tempted.

And deliver us from the evil one.

Pray for a hedge of protection around the family that they might be delivered from the evil one.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Pray that the power of God may rest upon the family and God be glorified.

A Parent's Prayer

Father, I thank you for the gift of my children. May I see them through Your eyes as diamonds to be shaped and polished. Pour Your love into my heart through your Holy Spirit that I might love them with the love that Jesus displayed when he said, "let them (the children) come to me and forbid them not," Give me wisdom and understanding so that their hearts will be drawn to you through my life and instruction. Show me those things in my life that might hinder their coming to you.

Give me the courage to establish boundaries and demonstrate tough love when necessary. I ask for patience when I am tempted to explode. Help me to remember how difficult it was to understand my parents when I was their age.

Lord, may they see your calling on their lives as more important than the call of the crowd or the culture, Keep them pure in body and mind. And when they fail, give me the eyes to see your forgiving grace on my life and extend that same grace to them.

Father, may I always remember the priceless nature of each stage of their life and treasure the moments at hand. May "... Our sons in their youth be like well-watered plants, and our daughters...like pillars carved to adorn a palace." *Psalm 144:12*

Praying POWER for Your Church

P Father God, I pray that you would unleash the power of the Holy Spirit in our church. May we catch the vision and passion of the early church and believe in your promises.

O Lord, open our eyes to the world outside our walls. May we know the joy of obedience in missions and evangelism. Teach us to overcome our doubts and fears as we move forward in faith.

W Give us wisdom as we walk in faith. Give us an instructed tongue to share the word of truth to all we touch and those who come to us.

E Equip us as a church to be a light to the community and to the world. Empower us as your people to share the gospel without fear, trusting the results to your Holy Spirit.

R Lord, bring revival to us as a church and individually. Renew us. Bring us to repentance and restore marriages and broken lives.

Praying for Your Child's Future Mate

The Marriage of your children has the potential for great joy and also great pain. It is never too early to pray for them.

1. Pray that they will have patience to let God lead them together.
2. Pray that their mate will be a growing, maturing Christian.
3. Pray that they will be sexually pure before marriage.
4. Pray that their mate will grow up in a home that demonstrates sensitivity, responsibility, and compassion.
5. Pray that their mate will be willing to invest time, energy, and effort to make their life a success.
6. Pray that they will agree before hand on children and strive to develop parenting skills.
7. Pray that he/she will be a wise steward of finances and all of life, without becoming enslaved to debt.
8. Pray that they will build a home based on Biblical principles. May their goal not be just to survive but to thrive and become a model for others.
9. Pray that their home will be a laboratory of love.
10. Pray that he/she will have a heart for service.

Praying for Your Child/ Grandchild

Pray that they will...

1. Have a fear (holy reverence) of a loving God.
2. Respond to the love of God with faithful obedience.
3. Develop a hunger to know God in a personal way.
4. Recognize the power of Satan and the consequences of sin.
5. Have a teachable spirit.
6. Develop a life characterized by honesty, integrity, and service.
7. Be free from addictions – drugs, alcohol, and sexual immorality.
8. Learn to respect the dignity of all people and accept them as creatures of God and worthy of your love.
9. Live a life of purpose, with heart of a servant and a sense of responsibility.
10. Make good choices with regard to friends, the use of money, time and their gifts.

Praying For Your Children

Someone has said that the greatest thing we can do for our nation is to pray for its children. Of course, that does not discount love, discipline, instruction, modeling, etc. But prayer should certainly undergird every action we take.

God, speaking to Moses cried out, “Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!” *Deut. 5:29*.

This cry of God for his children, the nation of Israel, reverberates through the ages. It is still true that if we fear God and keep his commandments it will go well with us and with our children.

As you pray for your children...

Prayer must begin with a serious evaluation of what you feel God would like to see happen in the life of your boy or girl. Our goals and dreams may not be God’s primary objectives. But the following suggestions would be a great start toward helping your child to become a spiritual self-feeder when they leave home.

1. We know that God desires that every child brought into the world come into a personal and loving relationship with the Heavenly Father through placing his complete faith and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord. *2 Peter 3:9*
 - Lord, open this child’s spirit to receive the convicting power of the Holy Spirit.
 - Lord, make his heart tender to receive and obey your truths.

- Give us as parents, wisdom to provide the atmosphere and opportunities that will allow your Spirit to work freely.
 - Make us aware of anything in our lives that might hinder his understanding of your love and grace. We ask that you would remove those hindrances.
 - May our faith and love be so transparent that he/she will long to experience that kind of life.
2. We know that God would have every child of his be transformed into the image of his Son, Jesus Christ. *Roms. 8:29*
 - Lord, may my child have a heart to learn of your ways and a spirit willing to obey your truths. *Psalms 25*
 - Give him/her a tender heart, sensitive to the needs of others. *Phil 2:3,4*
 - I pray that you will protect him/her from the evil one who would rob him/her of their innocence and destroy their future. *John 10:10a*
 - May they be quick to recognize the deceitfulness of sin and make decisions that would honor You. *Heb. 12:1*
 - Lord, give me wisdom to guide them to recognize that you are in control and that nothing will separate them from your loving presence. *Roms. 8:39*
 - Lord, I pray that they will recognize your call upon their lives and resist the materialistic and secular world that looks so tempting. *Matt. 6:33*
 - Lord, I pray that they will realize that their body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Give them a desire to keep the body pure and set apart for maximum service. *Roms 12:1, 2*
 - May they live a life of purpose, with a heart of a servant, and a sense of responsibility. *Luke 9:23-2*.

This is by no means inclusive. You can add your heart concerns. Many who read this have already reared their children. Feel free to cut this out and give it to a young couple or couples Sunday School Class. This might nudge them into a more active and structured prayer life. God bless.