

THE PRAYER CLOSET

Encouraging & Equipping Believers in Prayer

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Blessing Your Child

This issue of *The Prayer Closet* will focus on blessing your child. It can even apply to your grandchildren. If you don't have any children, you might consider "prayer adoption" – adopting a child or children that you will pray for on a regular basis. God will hear and bless your prayers for your children, your grandchildren, and even those that you adopt in your prayer life.

Your Child's Basic Needs

- Salvation: "Lord, do your work of grace in my child's heart. Enable my child to obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory (John 6:44; 2 Timothy 2:10).
- Growth in grace: "I pray that my child may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18)."
- Love for God's Word: "Father, I pray that You will create in my child a hunger for the Word of God. May he/she find Your Word more precious than much pure gold and sweeter than honey from the comb (Psalm 19:10)."
- Love: "Father, grant that my child will learn to live a life of love for God and others through the Spirit who lives in him/her and pours out the love of God in his her heart (Romans 5:5)."
- Purity: "Create in my child a pure heart, O God, and cause that purity to be shown in their actions (Psalm 51:10)."
- Faith: "I ask that faith will take root and grow in my child's heart so that by faith he may receive what is promised to him/her (Luke 17:5-6; Hebrews 11:1-40)."

- A Servant's Heart: "O God, create a servant's heart in my child that he/she may serve wholeheartedly as if they were serving the Lord and not men (Ephesians 6:7)."
- Hope: "I pray that You, the God of hope, would cause hope to overflow in my child's life (Romans 15:13)."
- Humility: "God, please cultivate in my child the ability to have true humility before You and to show true humility before all (Titus 3:2; 1 Peter 5:5).
- **Compassion:** "O Lord, please clothe my child with the virtue of compassion (**Colossians 3:12**)."
- Honesty and integrity: "May honesty and integrity be my child's virtue and their protection (Psalm 25:21)."
- Self-control: "Father, help my child not to be like the many others around them, but enable him/her to alert and self-controlled in all that he/she does (1 Thessalonians 5:16)."
- Justice: "God, help my child to love justice as You do and act justly in all that he/she does (Psalm 11:7; Micah 6:8)."
- Faithfulness: "Let love and faithfulness never leave my child, but bind these twin virtues around his/her neck and write them on the tablet of his or her heart (Proverbs 3:31)."
- Courage: "Enable my child to always be strong and courageous in his/her character and his/her actions (Deuteronomy 31:6)."

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- Mercy: "Let my child always be merciful as his/her Father is merciful (Luke 6:36)."
- Respect for self, others, and authority: "Lord, enable my child to show proper respect to everyone as Your Word commands (1 Peter 2:17)."
- Biblical self-esteem: "God, help my child to develop a strong sense of self-esteem that is rooted in the righteousness of Jesus and the realization that he/she is God's workmanship, created in Christ (Ephesians 2:10)."
- Perseverance: "God, teach my child perseverance, especially to run the race with perseverance the race marked out for them (Hebrews 12:1)."
- Joy: "Let my child be filled with joy given by the Holy Spirit (1 Thessalonians 1:6)."
- Peace-loving: "Lord, enable my child to make every effort to do what leads to peace (Romans 14:19)."
- Responsibility: "Grant that my child will learn responsibility because each one should carry his/her own load (Galatians 6:5)."
- Generosity: "Enable my child to be generous and willing to give, laying up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age (1 Timothy 6:18-19)."
- Kindness: "Lord, cause my child to be kind to others at all times (1 Thessalonians 5:15)."
- Willingness and ability to work: "Lord, teach my child the value of work and cause him/her to work with all his/her heart to You and not to men (Colossians 3:23)."
- Passion for God: "Lord, please create a passion in my child's heart to know You and love You (Psaim 63:8)."
- Prayerfulness: "God, grant that my child's life would be characterized by prayer. Enable him/her to pray in the spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests (Ephesians 6:18)."
- Gratitude: "Grant that my child will always be overflowing with thankfulness and will always give thanks for all thing to You in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:20; Colossians 2:7)."
- Self-discipline: "God, I ask that my child will acquire a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right, just, and fair (Proverbs 1:3)."

- A Heart for Missions: "Father, create a desire in my child to see Your glory declared among the nations, to see Your marvelous deeds among all peoples (Psalm 96:3)."
- Contentment: "Lord, teach my child the secret or being content in any and every situation through Him who gives strength (Philippians 4:12-13).

Your Child's Health And Growth

Father, You have created ______. He/She is Your unique creation. I plead that You would protect him/her. I ask You to grant him/her good health. You are the God who made ______. I now plead with You to sustain and protect him/her (**Genesis** 1:27, 2:7).

Father, I plead that all would be well with _____. I pray that You would grant him/her a healthy body and soul (**3 John 2**).

Lord, I bless Your name. I pray that would not forget all Your benefits. I ask that You would forgive all his/her iniquities and that You heal him/her of all his/her diseases (**Psalm 103:2-3**).

Father, I pray that _____ would take refuge in You and that he/she would rejoice. Let him/her sing joyful praises forever. O God, spread Y protection over _____. Let him/ love Your name and be filled with joy (**Psalm 5:11**).

Your Child's Emotional Well-Being

Father, I plead that You will cause ______ to know that he/she is fearfully and wonderfully made. I ask that ______ will see that he/she is Your precious and unique creation. Teach ______ that he/she is precious in Your sight and that You love him/her (**Psalm 139:14-15**).

Father, I pray that ______ will iove his/her enemies. Empower him/her to do good to those who hate him/her. Help ______ to bless those who curse him/her. Teach ______ to pray for those who mistreat him/her. Father, I plead that _____ will do for others, as he/she would like them to do for him/her (Luke 6:27-31).

Father, when ______ feelings are hurt, I pray that _____ will rest in Your love and depend on Your promises. Cause him/her to look to You for the help and the comfort that he/she needs (**Romans 5:5; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4**).

Father, I pray that ______ would be filled with joy given by the Holy Spirit. I ask that would always be joyful, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in every circumstance because this is Your will for him/her (**1 Thessalonians 1:6; 5:16-18**).

ther, You are the Healer of the brokenhearted. You d up the wounds. I pray that You would grant emotional healing in ______''s life. Bind up the emotional wounds that he/she has suffered. Let Your love and grace restore and rebuild the damaged emotions. I plead that ______ will experience wholeness through the power of Jesus Christ (**Psalm 147:3**).

Your Child's Friends And Role Models

Father, I pray that ______ will develop friendships with wise and godly people. Deliver ______ from being the companion of fools. Set him/her free from ungodly friends so that he/she will not learn their ways and set a snare for his/her life (**Proverbs 13:20**).

Father, I plead that ______ will resist temptation when he/she is enticed by friends and acquaintances. Empower him/her to refuse their invitations to rebellion. Deliver him/her from yielding to ungodly friends and role models. Keep from following in their path (**Proverbs 1:10, 15**).

her, enable ________ to stay away from foolish people. Let him/her develop deep and abiding relationships with those who know You, who seek You, and who love You and Your Word (**Proverbs** 14:7).

Your Child And The Word Of God

Father, I plead that ______ will know that the Bible is the Word of God. Cause him/her to know that You inspired the Bible and that it is Your Word to him/her. Grant him/her certainty and conviction in this matter. Show ______ that it is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness (**2 Timothy 3:16**).

I ask that Your Word would be a lamp to ______'s feet and a light to ______'s path (**Psalm 119:105**).

Father, I pray that ______ would not merely hear the Word of God. I plead that he/she will hear and obey the Word of God. Deliver him/her from being a careless hearer of the Word of God (James 1:22).

her, I ask You to open _____'s eyes to see the wonderful truths in God's Word. Help him/her understand Your Word (**Psalm 119:18**).

Your Child's Spiritual Protection

Father, I pray that ______ would be sober and diligent because his/her adversary, the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. I plead that ______ would resist him, steadfast in faith (**1 Peter 5:8-9**).

I plead that _____ would submit to You and would resist the devil. Make the devil flee from ______ as he/she seeks You (James 4:7-8).

I ask that You would not lead ______ into temptation. I plead with You to deliver him/her from the evil one (**Matthew 6:13**).

Father, place a hedge of protection and blessing around ______. I ask You to guard him/her from the attacks and plans of Satan (**Job 1:10**).

Father, I pray that ______ will not do anything that would give the devil a foothold in his/her life. Deliver him/her from allowing any avenue for Satan to work in his/her life (**Ephesians 4:27**).

Father, thank You for sending Your Son Jesus to destroy the works of the devil. I ask that You would destroy the schemes and plans that Satan has for through his/her relationship to Jesus Christ. Empower him/her to do what is righteous rather than what is sinful. Deliver him/her from being led astray and ensnared by sin (**1 John 3:7-8**).

Your Child's Usefulness In God's Kingdom

Father, I plead that ______ would never be ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I ask that he/she will recognize it as the power of God to salvation to everyone who believes (**Romans 1:16**).

I ask that ______ would be blameless and pure, a child of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. Cause him/her to shine like a star in the universe as he/she holds out the word of life (**Philippians 2:15-16**).

I plead that ______ would live wisely among those who are not Christians and empower him/her to make the most of every opportunity to share his/her faith. I pray that ______'s lifestyle would be gracious and effective so that he/she will have the right answers for everyone (**Colossians 4:5-6**).

Father, I pray that You would fill ______ would share the Word of God with boldness (Acts 4:31).

Lord Jesus, I pray that ______ would go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching these new disciples to obey all the commands that You have given. Cause him/her to know that You are always with him/her (**Matthew 28:19-20**).

From Conception To Birth

"For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition which I asked of Him. Therefore I also have lent him to the LORD, as long as he lives he shall be lent to the LORD" (**1 Samuel 1:27-28**).

You can't be everywhere. But God can. You can't see everything. But God can. You can't know everything. But God can. This is why releasing your child to God is crucial. It is an act of faith in which you trust God. It will also lead to peace when it would be easy to give into fear and frustration concerning your child.

The following is a prayer list for parents before the child comes. These requests are a guide in preparing for the birth of your child and releasing him or her to the Lord. You can combine these requests along with specific requests from your particular situation. Those who want to intercede for those who are becoming parents could also use these prayer requests.

Pray the Hannah prayer (1 Samuel 1). Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 1:10-11 provides a basic model for parents. Her prayer consisted of the following:
-Honoring God as the Author and Giver of life;
-Commitment of the child to God who is his/her Creator and God;

-Commitment to raise the child in godliness and truth.

Plead that God would prepare you spiritually for the birth of your child (Psalm 42:1-2). The birth of a child will bring new stress and added demands on your time and energy. Because of this, it will make it difficult to be faithful to Christ and His church. There will be a tendency to let Bible reading and studying and prayer go. Plead that God will deepen your relationship to Him and strengthen your commitment to Him in order to deal with these new stresses and demands.

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- Ask God to strengthen you physically (Philippians 4:13). Plead with Him to give you the physical strength and help to face and deal with the new demands and stresses that you will face.
- Call on God to help you prepare financially (Philippians 4:19). The birth of a baby creates necessity of greater financial resources. Ask God we provide in an abundant and gracious way.
- Pray that God will strengthen and deepen your marriage relationship (Proverbs 5:15-18). Ask God to strengthen your marriage through these new demands and stresses that you will face.
- Plead with God to deal with anything in your life that would be a hindrance to your being a godly parent (Psalm 147:3). Pray that God would help you deal with past "baggage." Plead for healing and release from anything that might hinder you from being a godly parent.
- Dedicate each room of your home to the Lord Jesus Christ (Joshua 24:15). Go to each room in your house and dedicate it to the Lord. Plead that each room will be holy to the Lord. Ask Him to help you remove anything from your home that might be a hindrance to your relationship and obedience to God.

NEW NEWSLETTER!!!

In January 2009, The Prayer Closet will launch a new newsletter. This newsletter will be *Prayerwalking*. This newsletter will focus on practicing the presence of God and developing an ongoing conversation with G It will also provide you with practical help prayerwalking both for individual believers and churches. It will also offer help in sharing your witness and defending your faith. This newsletter will be a free download at www.kingdompraying.com in January.

Share What The Lord Is Doing

How do you practice prayerwalking? How does your church take prayer to the streets? What have you seen the Lord do when you or your church prayerwalked? One of the sections of the new newsletter will focus on testimonies concerning prayerwalking. We want you to share what God has taught you so that others might grow! Contact me through any of the ways listed on the front of the newsletter. Our goal is to encourage and strengthen believers to pray on location for transformation!

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