



# THE PRAYER CLOSET

ENCOURAGING & EQUIPPING BELIEVERS IN PRAYER

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ISSUE I

## COVERING FAMILIES IN PRAYER

In this issue of **The Prayer Closet**, I'm offering a variety of prayer guides to pray for marriages and families. I had a number of other topics that I was writing on, but this kept coming to the forefront in my heart and mind. My great burden is that we must pray for the families, marriages, and singles of our churches. My hope is that this will encourage and empower you to make powerful, scriptural intercession for these areas.

### Prayers For A Family

I would encourage you to pray these over your family and over the families in your church.

Father, I plead that each member of this family will repent of sin and trust solely in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior (**Acts 26:20**).

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that each member of this family will thirst for You and Your will (**Psalms 42:1-2**).

○ God, I pray that each member of this family will love and delight in Your Word (**Psalms 119:97**).

○ Lord our Healer, unleash Your healing power into the midst of this family; protect this family from disease and death (**Exodus 15:26**).

My God, the Healer of the brokenhearted, release emotional healing into this family; I plead that You would deal with the emotional wounds that plague this family (**Psalms 147:3**).

Father, I ask that this family would hate sin; stir us to repent and pursue the holiness that You desire and demand (**Proverbs 28:13**).

Father, I plead that this family would not love the world or the things of it; teach us to love You with all of our beings (**1 John 2:15-16**).

Righteous Father, protect this family from all the schemes of the enemy; I ask that You would destroy all the weapons and works that Satan has planned against this family (**2 Corinthians 2:11**).

God, You are the all-sufficient God; I ask in Jesus' name that You will meet every need of this family. Supply all of the physical, emotional, financial needs of this family (**Philippians 4:19**).

Father, I ask that this family would reach out and meet the needs of others (**1 John 3:17**).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that You would grant this family Your strength; I ask that Your peace would fill our lives (**Psalms 29:11**).

Father, release Your grace and power into our lives for every test and temptation that we face (**1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Corinthians 12:9**).

Father, I plead that this family would be faithful and active in the church; I pray that we would serve and bless others in the body of Jesus (**Hebrews 10:25**).

Father, I ask that we would lead a life of integrity in our home; I pray that we will not allow anything vile or vulgar into this home (**Psalms 101:3-4**).

Mighty God, enable this family to walk by faith and not by sight (**2 Corinthians 5:7**).

Loving Father, empower this family to be salt and light in this world; I pray that we would exercise a powerful and righteous influence through our example, our words, and our actions (**Matthew 5:13-16**).

Father, unleash a spirit of prayer into our family; I ask that we would seek You with faith and persistence (**Luke 18:1**).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that each member of this family would be kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving (**Ephesians 4:32**).

Father, enable us to bear each other's burdens; forgive us for failing to care for and help each other as we ought (**Galatians 6:2**).

Father, I ask that we forsake pride and seek to minister to each other on a daily basis (**Matthew 20:28**).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that we would deal with disagreements quickly and wisely; I pray that we would not give any room for the devil to work in our family because of unresolved conflict and negative, sinful emotions (**Ephesians 4:26-27**).

Father, help us to be patient with one another; I plead that we would turn the other cheek when offended. Enable us to respond with Christlike love (**Matthew 5:38-42**).

Father, I pray that we would speak the truth to one another in love; grant us the humility to receive it and respond to it (**Ephesians 4:25**).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that this family would repent and forsake everything that is not pleasing in Your sight. I pray that we would deal with everything in our family that is sinful. Give us a heart for holiness (**Genesis 35:1-4**).

Father, I plead that this family would be filled with the Holy Spirit. I ask that we would walk in the Spirit and not fulfill the lust of the flesh (**Ephesians 5:18**).

Father, I pray that You would guide this family in the path of righteousness for Your name's sake (**Psalms 23:3**).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that this family would be characterized by genuine, unconditional, and unceasing love (**I John 4:11**).

Father, teach us and empower us to love You with all of our being; help us to love our neighbors as ourselves (**Matthew 22:37-39**).

Father, I ask that this family would be a good steward of Your blessings; empower us to bless others with what You give (**2 Corinthians 9:9-10**).

Father, put Your hedge around this family; help us and secure us through all the days of our lives (**Job 1:9-10**).

## Blessing Your Family (Psalm 127)

The following is a prayer that You can use to plead for God's blessing on your family. You can use this prayer or develop Your own from it. This prayer is based on Psalm 127. The crucial issue is to understand that only God can build a marriage and a family. You are to plead with Him to bless your family with His grace and power. You might also use this prayer to intercede for other families.

"Father, I/we commit my/our family into Your hands. Your Word declares that unless You build the house, those who build it labor in vain. Father, I/we do not have the power to build and keep this family together. It is only through You that we can be a family and grow as a family. I/We ask for Your blessing on this family. Meet all our needs—physically, spiritually, emotionally, and financially. Let Your power love and wisdom flow into this family.

Protect us from all the attacks of our enemy, Satan. Cut off any avenue that he might attempt to attack us. Cause this family to grow in grace and in the knowledge of You. Let this family shine as an example of what You intended the family to be. Remove any obstacles that would hinder this family from becoming what You want it to be. Through the good and bad of life, let Your grace, peace, and love surround and fill our family.

O God, cause this family to be a force for righteousness. Empower us so that we can have a powerful, positive impact for the Lord Jesus Christ. Use this family as an instrument for carrying out Your purposes. Glorify Your name through this family. Amen."

## Praying For Marriages

I would encourage you to pray these over your marriages and the marriages in your church.

Father, I plead that the marriages here would speak the truth in love to each other, honestly and openly sharing their feelings with each other (**Ephesians 4:15, 25**).

Lord, I pray that these marriages will glorify You and be an example of Your intention for marriage (**I Corinthians 10:31**).

God, I plead that You would give them wisdom and compassion in dealing with our in-laws (**Matthew 5:7**).

Father, bless and strengthen the marriages in the midst of the pressure and problems of their lives (**2 Corinthians 12:9**).

Father, I ask You to protect the marriages here from the attacks of Satan. Deliver them from his evil, destructive plans (**I Peter 5:8**).

Father, grant that they might find great delight and joy in each other (**Proverbs 5:18**).

Lord God, I pray that You would deepen and strengthen their friendship to each other (**Proverbs 17:17**).

Father, I plead that Your power would sustain and give stability to the marriages here (**Jeremiah 32:17**).

Father, help them to discern and deal with those things that hinder and hurt their relationship (**Psalms 139:23-24**).

Father, I ask that their strengths would match and overcome their weaknesses (**Genesis 2:20-23**).

I pray that they would be kind and tenderhearted to one another, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven them (**Ephesians 4:32**).

I plead that they would be sensitive to the needs and hurts of each other. Enable them to minister to each other in these areas (**Matthew 20:28**).

God, create within them a hunger for each other. Let them be satisfied with one another (**Proverbs 5:19-20**).

I plead that You would give them a heart to seek after You and serve You all the days of our lives (**Psalms 63:1**).

Father, I pray that You would grant them the wisdom and power to gain and use their finances wisely (**Proverbs 3:9-10**).

Lord, I ask that You would deliver them from pettiness and unforgiveness in their relationship (**Matthew 18:20-21**).

Father, I plead that they will surrender all that they are and all that they have to each other (**Genesis 2:24-25**).

I pray that they would love You with all our being and their neighbors as themselves (**Matthew 22:37-40**).

Lord God, I ask that we would love and obey Your Word, building our lives, marriage, and family on its truth (**Psalms 119:97**).

Father, I plead that they would be patient with each other in all the circumstances of life (**I Corinthians 13:4**).

Father, I pray that they will be kind and gentle to each other through the ups and downs of their lives together (**I Corinthians 13:4**).

Father, I ask that they would not let any jealousy or envy to gain ground in their relationship (**I Corinthians 13:4**).

God, I plead that they will always seek what is best for their relationship (**I Corinthians 13:5**).

Lord, I pray that they will share each other's burdens and hurts (**I Corinthians 13:5**).

Father, enable them to overcome the pride in their lives. Set them free from the pride that will hinder and hurt their marriage (**I Corinthians 13:5**).

Lord, I ask that they would not be rude or thoughtless concerning each other (**I Corinthians 13:5**).

God, deliver them from the selfishness that would hinder and hurt their relationship (**I Corinthians 13:5**).

Lord, I ask that they would rejoice in each other's strengths and gifts and would pray concerning their weaknesses and sins (**I Corinthians 13:6**).

Father, I pray that You would give them a love that bears all things, believes all things, and hopes all things (**I Corinthians 13:7**).

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Lord, I plead that You would create in them a love that will endure the stress and problems that they will face (**I Corinthians 13:7**).

Father, I ask that their love for one another will never fail (**I Corinthians 13:8**).

Father, I plead that they would be faithful to attend and serve in the church of Jesus Christ (**Hebrews 10:25**).

## **Praying For Singles**

I would encourage you to pray these Scriptural truths over the singles in your church.

- Plead that they will develop a strong, intimate relationship with God (**Psalms 42:1-2**).
- Ask that they will be diligent in reading and studying the Word of God (**I Peter 2:2**).
- Pray that they will be faithful to attend and serve in a local church (**Hebrews 10:25**).
- Plead that they will pursue sexual purity (**Hebrews 13:4**).
- Ask that the Lord will heal the emotional wounds that they have suffered (**Psalms 147:3**).
- Pray that they will develop strong, healthy friendships (**Proverbs 17:17**).

- Pray that the Lord will prepare them for His will – whether it is marriage or singleness (**I Corinthians 7:27-28**)
- Plead that the Lord will fill them with joy and contentment in His will (**Philippians 4:12-13**).

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