



7/17/26

On this week's episode of Chosen and Cherished, we talked about the wonderful gift of relationship we have with the Lord through prayer... and yes, I did figure out a way to incorporate my favorite color into the episode. Hahaha. But also, as we speak of prayer, it definitely brings us back to our subject of rehearsing the gospel to ourselves every day. The good news of the gospel opens up the door for us to talk with God personally and confidently. If you'd like to listen to the episode, PURPLE Prayer, here's the link... <https://summitpoint.org/chosen-and-cherished/>

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Today, we look at scripture we can pray for our kids... and once again, this is scripture to pray for myself as well. As a parent, anything I want my kids to learn and do, I need to first model to them. It's not that God can't work in their lives if I'm not modeling a genuine relationship with Him, but it sure helps if I am. They learn a ton more from what I model than what I teach.

I watch how my grandkids, even from the time they began to walk, have some of the same expressions and mannerisms as their parents. Their parents didn't teach them those expressions and mannerisms. They simply modeled them by doing life in the presence of their kids. Even as I consider that Solomon wrote the book of Proverbs with such great wisdom, I see by his story that he didn't model this well... and the kingdom of the 12 tribes of Israel was divided after he died.

So Lord, please help me to live a genuine life with You and model that life with You simply by doing life with my kids and their kids and anyone You allow me to influence. Let anything I teach align with Your word, and let my life authentically align with Your word.

Vs. 1-5 ~ "My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, have given your pledge for a stranger, if you are snared in the words of your mouth, caught in the words of your mouth, then do this, my son, and save yourself, for you have come into the hand of your neighbor: go,

hasten, and plead urgently with your neighbor. Give your eyes no sleep and your eyelids no slumber; save yourself like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the hand of the fowler."

What do I need to pray for and model to my kids? To be careful with my words and commitments... that I don't get caught up in relationships that don't honor You, Lord... that I'm careful to align myself with You. I pray that my kids and I will be humble and not think we know better than You what's best, and who is okay to lean on in friendship.

I pray that, even as my kids are grown, they will lean on friends who point to You, and be an example to friends who don't. I know that when I'm in a difficult or frustrating situation, there are people I can talk to who will tell me what I want to hear... and there are people I can talk to who will point me to truth. Please help me to have the wisdom to go to the people who point me to truth. Your word is truth.

If or when my kids or I do get caught up in a friendship that points us in the wrong direction, please help us not to think that we can't cry out to You for help! You are ALWAYS ready to help... even if it's pulling us out of a trap that we willingly ran into.

Vs. 6-11 ~ "Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest. How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man."

Father, this world is teaching that we are entitled to be lazy. It's a lie. This world uses words like "triggered" and "feeling unsafe" as a justification to avoid the hard things. Please help us to learn from the tiny little ants that You created as a model for us of hard work. Instead of living by the phrase, "Let go and let God", help us to live by words from Your word like "earnestness... diligence... perseverance... work out your salvation with fear and trembling... be all the more diligent to confirm your faith." Yes, completely depend on You, Lord, for strength. And yes, completely cooperate with You as I follow Your lead. Jesus said in Luke 9:23, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." That takes choice, resolve, effort. But I also have the promise of Your grace strengthening me to follow You, and Your Spirit leading me to all Your paths of steadfast love and faithfulness. So please help me to work hard for You, to not give up, and to model that to my kids even when it's uncomfortable. And help them to do the same.

Vs. 12-15 ~ "A worthless person, a wicked man, goes about with crooked speech, winks with his eyes, signals with his feet, points with his finger, with perverted heart devises evil, continually sowing discord; therefore calamity will come upon him suddenly; in a moment he will be broken beyond healing."

O Lord, please help me never to think anything different about wickedness than what Your

word says here!!! And help me never to partner with someone who lives these verses!!! Help me to model this to my kids so that they'll recognize the "worthless, wicked man." The thing is, crooked speech can sound really good. Winking with the eye can make it seem like what they're doing is good and inviting. But their speech is perverted... because their hearts are perverted, always plotting evil. Everything done in selfishness and not in faith... everything not done for the purpose of honoring God is evil. The evil person does not walk around with horns coming out of his head. He looks normal. He can be very charming. He might not even realize how deceived he is.

How will I recognize that person? Instead of pursuing genuine peace with others, he will be divisive... manipulative... maybe using flattering words but not encouraging unity. I pray that neither I or my kids will ever think this will end well if we are like this or get caught up with someone like this.

We shouldn't partner with someone like this, and we shouldn't assume they will change, or that we can change them. Proverbs 29:1 says, "He who is often reproved, yet stiffens his neck, will suddenly be broken beyond healing." Yikes!

Lord, I specifically pray for who my grandchildren will be friends with and who they'll date and eventually marry. Let them never think that they can change the other person. The only one who changes any of us is You as we turn to You and keep our eyes on You. Please give them wisdom to know that!!!

Vs. 16-19 ~ "There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers."

This is a method used in Hebrew poetry... to say "there are 6 things... then 7 things..." Here's what I need to focus on in prayer... Lord please help me to stay away from the things You hate... the things that are an abomination to Your soul...

- Haughty eyes... eyes raised high... thinking more of myself than I should. Instead, please help me to be humble before You and humble toward others.*
- A lying tongue... a tongue that deceives, whether it be through flat out lies or deceit or flattery or manipulation. Instead, please help me to speak the truth in love. Please let my words be trustworthy.*
- Hands that shed innocent blood... literally, not murdering anyone... spiritually, not hating anyone. Instead, please help me to show grace and love to people.*
- A heart that devises wicked plans... feelings, choices, and emotions centered on plans that only consider my comfort, my concerns, my rights, and my kingdom. Instead, help me to pursue peace, and consider what honors Your rights, Your concerns, and Your kingdom.*

- *Feet that quickly run to evil... this person may speak words that sound good but run to what is not good. Instead, please help me to run the race of endurance with my eyes fixed on Jesus.*
- *A false witness who breathes out lies... who tells partial truths or flat out lies, not caring about who it may hurt. Instead, please help me to speak the truth and let my loyalty be to You.*
- *One who sows discord among brothers... who bites and devours and divides. Instead, please help me to be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

In other words, please help me to be like You. Help me to model Your holiness, goodness, wisdom, and love. Help my kids and their kids to be like You. This is the best way to be. You always offer the best way to live. Help us to be like You.