

Parents Pray
with
Hope



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Written by
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The mission of CTA is
to glorify God by providing purposeful products
that lift up and encourage the body of Christ—
because we love him!

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ISBN 978-1-940088-91-4
PRINTED IN THAILAND

Chapter 1 *Parents Pray with Hope*





Parenthood is a calling.

Parenthood is a calling. “Mom! Dad!” Yes, that’s a calling you’ve heard, not only from your children, but also from the perfect Father who created them . . . and you! God has entrusted you with a child, with children.

Three things accompany the unique and priceless gift of a child: enormous responsibilities, joy-normous blessings, and a lifetime guarantee—a guarantee that the creative Creator will never, ever, ever let you or his little ones out of his sight. His perfect, infinite love for you will never, ever, ever, *never* change. You have his Word on it.

Parenthood includes another calling. Your heavenly Father invites you as a Christian parent to keep calling out to him in the name of his Son, Jesus. The Father listens, loves, and cares like no one else; he is continually at work for your good and his glory. He offers encouragement, guidance, correction, grace, forgiveness, and hope. Call out in gratitude and praise. Cry out in anguish and in time of need. Adore him as a hope-filled child,

sharing your heart with your perfect Father. The Bible is full of examples for all these kinds of prayers:

- Hannah, mother of the prophet Samuel, prayed this prayer of thanks when the son she had longed for and prayed for was finally born: “There is none holy like the LORD: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God” (1 Samuel 2:2).
- King David, the son of Jesse and father of at least 19, prayed this when one of his sons was in deep rebellion: “You, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. I cried aloud to the LORD, and he answered me” (Psalm 3:3–4).
- Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, prayed this as he was about to die for our sins: “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” (Luke 23:46).



Pray in Jesus' name, with hope.

Diverse eyes will read the words of hope and encouragement in this book. Some eyes will shine with awe and excitement at the prospect of parenthood. Some will reflect a parent's anxiety or even fear. Some readers will yawn and squint, their tired eyes straining to make out these words after an exhausting day of parenting. And still other eyes will be framed by wrinkle—well, evidence of many years of parenting experiences. But regardless of our circumstances, all of us are called together by the Father. We gather on the common ground of parenthood, hearing God's call to pray as parents, to pray in Jesus' name, with hope.

And so, with eyes of faith, trusting the promises of our Savior, we pray . . .

- for our children, homes, and relationships;
- with thanks for past blessings and for blessings yet to be revealed;
- through tears and between snorts of laughter;
- *with and for* our children;
- expecting and looking for God's answers; and
- with hope, in the name of Jesus, the creator of our family and the giver of hope.



*What are we waiting for?
Let's pray!*





Prayer

Heavenly Father, perfect Father,
I'm overwhelmed by your grace in
calling me to parent.

And I am so thankful you have
promised to lead our family.

I pray we don't get in your way!

But when we do,

lead us to realize we are,

to repent, and

to rejoice in your forgiveness.

Father, please continue to parent me

as I parent my children.

Holy Spirit, intercede for my family

and strengthen our faith

as you have promised to do.

Grow our love for each other,
strengthen our bonds, and
teach me how to pray for my family.
Increase our faith in you and our love for each other.

Heavenly Father, I love being your treasured child!

May my children experience that same joy

in their relationship with you

and with me.

I pray this in the name of your Son, my Savior, Jesus.

Amen.



Increase our faith.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.

Psalm 145:3–4

The LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100:5

The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;
he also hears their cry and saves them.

Psalm 145:18–19

But as for me and my house,
we will serve the LORD.

Joshua 24:15

Chapter 2

Pray Them Forward

