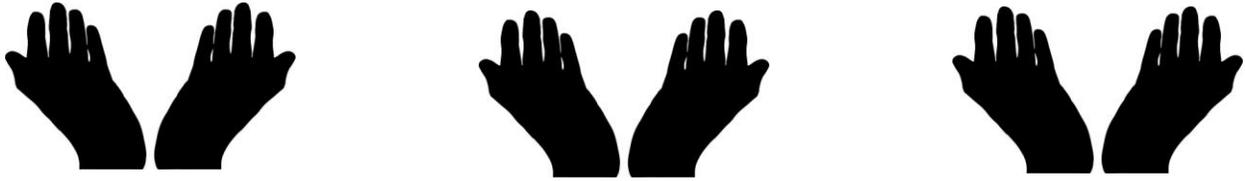


# Praying for Your Children



**Matthew 19:13-15** (NIV) Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them.

<sup>14</sup> Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” <sup>15</sup> When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

## 1. Children are a gift from God

Children are just as important to Jesus as the adults.

Children also provided a prime example of what our relationship with God should be like.

**Matthew 18:1-7** (NIV) At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

<sup>2</sup> He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. <sup>3</sup> And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup> And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.”



- Pray and give thanks for the children in your life and acknowledge they are a true gift from God.
- Pray that we too will become like children, being humble before the Lord, and welcome all such children in the name of Jesus.

## 2. God loves and blesses the children

**Psalms 127:3-5** (NIV) Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him.

<sup>4</sup> Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one’s youth. <sup>5</sup> Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their opponents in court.

**Acts 2:38-39** (NIV) Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”



- Pray that we can see our children and grandchildren as God sees them.

- Pray and give thanks for God's love and protection of our children and grandchildren
- Pray for your children and grandchildren to know Christ as their Savior and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

### 3. Protection for Children and Grandchildren

Our children and grandchildren face many obstacles in their lives.

Knowing we are in a spiritual battle for their lives and souls we must be intentional in rising them, watching over them, and praying for them.

**2 Corinthians 4:4** (NIV) The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**John 3:19** (NIV) This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

As we consider our children and grandchildren . . .

- Are there current struggles in their lives or unsettled issues in our adult children from their childhood? (*being bullied, feelings of abandonment from a parent, medical or emotional issues, etc*)

- Is there generational bondage that needs to be cleansed? (*addictions, spiritual influences other than God, etc.*)

- Is there rebellion or running from God?

- Pray for your children and grandchildren to see themselves as God sees them. That their self-worth is not determined by the behavior of others.
- Pray, in the name of Jesus, for God to bind and remove any spirits of disobedience, harmful addictions and influences-worldly or demonic, and fill them with the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit and God's love.
- Pray they will be able to hear the call of God on their lives and seek to live for the Lord.



### 4. The Cares and Needs of Children and Grandchildren

Do our children and grandchildren have concerns or challenges they are facing?  
God has an answer for them.

**1 Peter 5:7** (NIV) Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

**Hebrews 4:16** (NIV) Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.



- Pray for your children and grandchildren to trust in God as they face the challenges before them.
- Pray for them to grow in faith and trust of the Lord and cast all their cares upon him.
- Pray they will have the humility and courage to call upon the Lord at all times and in all circumstances.
- Pray God will strengthen them to meet each challenge with the confidence of one who walks with the Lord.

## 5. Gifts and Strengths

**1 Corinthians 12:7-11** (NIV) Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.



- Pray with thanksgiving for the strengths, gifts, and endearing qualities God has placed in your children and grandchildren.
- Pray for God to reveal the spiritual Gifts within your children and grandchildren
- Pray they will fully utilize all their gifts and strengths to God's glory.

## 6. The Children's Future

**Hebrews 12:1-2** (NIV) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Generations of believer have come before us.

Many generations are yet to come.

Are the children and grandchildren ready to run the race?



- Pray we will be faithful living examples of Christ followers
- Pray God will surround them with other faithful believers to be a source of encouragement and accountability.
- Pray they will take up their cross, with their hearts and eyes fixed upon the Lord, and run the race set before them.
- Pray they will experience victory in their lives, over all things, through Jesus.