

PRAY for YOUR CHILDREN

I want to encourage you to pray for your children and grandchildren throughout your lifetime. They need to be undergirded with your prayers. You are a spiritual covering over their lives. Keep them covered in the blood of Jesus every day.

If you don't have children pray for your nieces and nephews, if you are a teacher, pray for the children in your classroom. If you don't have nieces or nephews and aren't a teacher, then pray for your neighbors children. There are always children that can benefit from prayer. Pray for the children who are trafficked to be saved and set free from sex slavery. You can pray for the children that attend schools near you, pray for the children that attend our outreach ministry Christian schools. Pray for orphans.

We want God's full protection on their lives and that comes through them being saved first of all and through living obedient lives.

God gave mankind freewill and everyone has to make the choice to come to Him or not. He draws each one of us but ultimately the decision is ours to make. Our children have freewill too; we cannot make them get saved. We must do our part as godly parents to train them up in God's Word.

If your children aren't saved, keep praying for them to be saved. Don't give up and don't get discouraged, sometimes it takes years. Abraham waited 25 years for God's promise of Isaac.

Children are a precious gift from God to us. **(Psalm 127:3-5)**

Matt.19:14 – But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Little children are innocent and precious to God. Little children naturally trust their parents and believe what we tell them. As parents and grandparents we are expected to teach our children about God and His Word and how to serve and obey Him. Start when they are young before their hearts get hardened and cold and they pass the age of accountability.

Prov.22:6 – Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

As a parent this is to be one of your highest priorities. Each one of us will answer for how well we did or did not do this. If you did not teach your children, please ask God for forgiveness. If they still live at home then start teaching them now. If they moved out already then sow seeds in their lives when you can. They may not want to hear what you have to say, say it anyway. Don't be found guilty of not telling your children about Jesus. What a shame that would be. If you don't see them very much you can always pray and prayer is one of the most powerful things we can do. Prayer is not a last ditch effort but we often treat it that way.

Deut.6:2,5-9 - That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

As parents and grandparents we have a responsibility to God to teach His Word and ways to our children and grandchildren, they are the next generation. We want them to go on and do great things for God. The Israelites tied passages of God's Word around their hands and put them in a box strapped to their foreheads and had passages of His Word hanging by their front doors and gates. These were visual reminders to them of God's Word. Seeing these things helped to keep His Word on their minds continually.

We should be talking about God's Word daily and when things come up in life, take it back to God's Word. Show your children the biblical answer to what the world says. Help to give them a biblical worldview. The world says we came from pond scum or an ape, teach them Who created them and why. They might learn this non-sense in school but you teach them the truth at home. The school might teach them to accept all sexuality and that they can decide what sex they are but you teach them the truth at home. There are only two genders, God only created male and female. **(Genesis 1:27, 5:2)** We are created in God's image, not pond

scum that evolved or an ape that finally turned into a human one day – that's not even possible.

I have shared many times in the past that as godly parents we should be praising God with our children, reading His Word together and praying together. Model this for them. Be sure to have your own personal praise and worship, reading and studying and prayer time as well. Let this be something they know about you and that you are not ashamed to serve Jesus.

Joshua 1:8 – This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Not letting God's Word depart out of their mouth meant that they kept on reading it, talking about it, teaching it, it was a natural part of their daily lives. If you go for a few days without reading God's Word it gets easier to gradually let it slip away and quit reading it. If you don't discuss His Word or share it to others pretty soon you aren't speaking God's Word at all. Don't quit discussing, reading and teaching God's Word to your children. God blesses us when we do these things. Living according to God's Word is His will for us and it brings His blessing on our lives and if our children do His Word then they will live blessed lives as well.

Here are some things you can pray for your children in no particular order:

For protection, to know their gifts and talents, to crave the things of God more than the things of this world, for godly knowledge, wisdom and discernment, a desire to feed on God's Word, a desire to pray daily, for provision, for God's plan to unfold in their lives, for good health, for peace in their lives, to live lives that please God, for God to bless their life. For The Holy Spirit to lead them and convict them of sin and help them to make godly choices and to avoid sin. Ask God to help them to excel in their studies and at school. And to help them to remember the material they are being taught and to pass their quizzes, tests and exams. Pray for God to lead them to the right job where they will enjoy their work and be able to provide for themselves and their families. Ask God to help them to succeed and have favor on the job with their bosses and co-workers.

Ask God to bring true Christian friends into their lives and pray for them to be equally yoked in all their friendships and eventually in marriage too.

Ask God to keep His hedge of protection and wall of fire around them. Pray for The Holy Spirit to reign over their lives. If you ever feel overwhelmed by what all you can pray for your children, you can simply pray and ask God to pour out all the good things He has into their lives. Pray that they will go on and run a strong race and finish well and be in heaven with you one day. Pray for them to have a tender heart toward God and that they would repent of sin quickly. Always pray as The Holy Spirit guides you to pray over them.

Teach them to honor you as their parents and grandparents so that they will be blessed with a long life. **(Exodus 20:12)**

As parents we have a lifelong responsibility to be praying over our children, to be a second covering over them under Christ Who is the Head of the body. We should be helping to guide them spiritually as long as we live always pointing them to Christ and being a godly example in their lives.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS

Pray for your children to have true Christian friends. Pray that God will disconnect them from those who are bad influences on their lives.

Listen to what Pastor Erustus shared:

The issue of our children having Godly friends is a challenge to every Christian parent. My girl Faith after joining college in March this year, has had the same challenge too. The college is full of students who are drunkards, hate church, love partying each weekend and live immoral lives. She was confused not knowing what to do. They pressure her to do what they do so as to confuse her. And all this is satan's schemes. He knows we as their parents we have stood our ground against him and we are focused on serving God. So satan wants to attack our seed and fruit of our wombs to break our hearts and their future life. But I and Sarah just keep a close eye on Faith plus these other girls always advising and reminding them about God's word in their lives. Above all we always pray for them asking God to watch over them and the Holy Spirit to speak to their hearts what is right and wrong for them in this life. Let's encourage them to study the Bible, pray, attend church, watch and listen to the right things on internet. Pastor let's not give up or get discouraged but work hard to play our part as their parents and

leave the rest to God. God is faithful Pastor, let's keep on trusting Him for the protection and guidance of our children.

CLOSING

Pastor Erustus summed up the two most powerful things, besides salvation, that you can pray for your children:

Ask God to watch over them and the Holy Spirit to speak to their hearts what is right and wrong for them in this life.

Plead the blood of Jesus over your children every day.

In every problem, trial and test, teach your children to turn to God in all circumstances. Anything they worry about, teach them to take it to God.

1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.

God wants to hear from your child. Teach them how to have their own relationship with Him. When their prayers are answered, be sure to point that out and praise God with them.

Psalm 55:22 - Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

This stability is not a guarantee of a trouble-free life but rather the assurance of God's presence and support through trials. The imagery of being unshaken suggests a firm foundation, akin to the wise man who built his house on the rock in Matthew 7:24-25, symbolizing the enduring strength found in a life grounded in faith.

Teach them to seek Him first in all things. **(Matt.6:33)** This life is going to come at them hard and they need to know where to run and Who they can really depend on. God is faithful to His children. **(Lamentations 3:22-23, Psalm 36:5, 2 Timothy 2:13)**

PRAYER