

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK
HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR CHILD**

1. "SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER"

2. **DISCUSS: THE POWER OF PRAYER**

A. ANSWERED PRAYER...

1. A FEW?

2. MANY?

3. ALL?

B. **DISCUSS: HOW AND WHEN DO YOU PRAY FOR YOUR CHILDREN?**

3. **PRAYER FOR OUR CHILDREN**

A. TODAY'S LESSON IS TO REMIND YOU OF WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW REGARDING PRAYER FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

B. NO MATTER WHAT STAGE OF LIFE OUR CHILDREN ARE IN... THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WE CAN DO IS TO PRAY FOR THEM.

1. WHETHER THEY ARE IN DIAPERS, COLLEGE, DANGER, LOVE, REBELLION, OR PARENTING THEIR OWN CHILDREN..... OUR MOST POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE TOOL IN PARENTING IS FERVENT PRAYER OVER EVERY ASPECT OF THEIR LIVES.

a. STORMIE ORTMAN SAYS, "BEING A PERFECT PARENT DOESN'T MATTER... BEING A PRAYING PARENT DOES!"

2. SPECIFICALLY, PRAYER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCRIPTURE... GOD'S WORD.

C. TO PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN DIRECTLY FROM GOD'S WORD IS TO PRAY IN HARMONY WITH GOD'S WILL FOR THEIR LIVES.

1. WHEN WE PRAY FROM GOD'S WORD WE SURRENDER OUR SOMETIMES FOOLISH MISCONCEPTIONS OF WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR CHILDREN BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT OUR WAYS ARE NOT ALWAYS GOD'S WAYS.

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- a. TO **PRAY FROM SCRIPTURE** IS TO SEEK THE **WILL OF GOD** RATHER THAN THE **WILL OF THE PARENT**.
 - b. **Isaiah 55:8-9 (NASB)** "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. "For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are **My ways higher than your ways** And **My thoughts than your thoughts**."
4. **WHY SHOULD WE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN?**
- A. **DISCUSS:**
 - B. **PRAYER... IS A COMMAND OF GOD.**
 1. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NASB)** Rejoice always; **pray without ceasing**; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
 2. **James 5:16 (NASB)** Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.
5. **WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN?**
- A. **PRAY THAT OUR CHILDREN WILL COME TO SALVATION THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.**
 1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
 2. **1 Timothy 2:3-4 (NASB)** This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
 - B. **PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL SURROUND THEM WITH GODLY FRIENDS AND ROLE MODELS.**
 1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
 2. **1 Corinthians 15:33 (NASB)** Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."
 3. **Proverbs 13:20 (NASB)**
²⁰ He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.

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4. **Proverbs 27:17 (NASB)** Iron sharpens iron, So one man sharpens another.
- C. **PRAY THAT THE LORD GIVE OUR CHILDREN A HUNGER AND THIRST FOR HIM.**
1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
 2. **Psalm 42:1-2 (NASB)** As the deer pants for the water brooks, So my soul pants for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; When shall I come and appear before God?
- D. **PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE THEM THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION SO THEY WILL KNOW HIM BETTER AND TRUST HIM MORE.**
1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
 2. **Ephesians 1:17 (NASB)** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.
 3. **James 1:5-8 (NASB)** But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, *being* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.
- E. **PRAY THAT THEY WILL BECOME PEACEMAKERS.**
1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
 2. **Matthew 5:9 (NASB)** "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
 3. **DISCUSS: NEXT SUBJECT MATTER OF OUR CLASS?**
- F. **PRAY THAT THEY WILL FOLLOW THE TRUTH AND REJECT THE LIES OF SATAN.**
1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
 2. **Proverbs 22:3 (NASB)** The prudent sees the evil and hides himself, But the naive go on, and are punished for it.

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3. **John 8:32 (NASB)** “and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”
4. **John 8:44 (NASB)** "You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

G. **PRAY THAT THEY WILL BEAR FRUIT FOR GOD' GLORY.**

1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**

2. **Galatians 5:22-23 (NASB)** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.
3. his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

H. **PRAY THAT THEY WILL FLEE TEMPTATION.**

1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**

2. **1 Corinthians 10:13 (NASB)** No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

I. **PRAY THAT THEY WILL USE THEIR GIFTS AND TALENTS TO HONOR THE LORD.**

1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**

2. **Proverbs 16:3 (NASB)** Commit your works to the LORD And your plans will be established.
3. **1 Corinthians 10:31 (NASB)** Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

J. **PRAY THAT THEY WILL HAVE FREEDOM FROM FEAR AS THEY TRUST THE LORD.**

1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**

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2. **Psalm 56:13 (NASB)** For You have delivered my soul from death, Indeed my feet from stumbling, So that I may walk before God In the light of the living.
3. **2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT2)** For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

K. PRAY THAT THEY WILL KEEP THEMSELVES SEXUALLY PURE FOR THEIR FUTURE MATES.

1. **DISCUSSION: IS SEXUAL PURITY STILL A PRIORITY?**
2. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
3. **1 Corinthians 10:8 (NLT2)** And we must not engage in sexual immorality as some of them did, causing 23,000 of them to die in one day.
4. **Hebrews 13:4 (NASB)** Marriage *is to be held* in honor among all, and the *marriage bed is to be undefiled*; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

L. PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL BRING GODLY MATES INTO THEIR LIVES.

1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**
2. **2 Corinthians 6:14-16 (NASB)** Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.
3. **PRAY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THEIR FUTURE MATES AND FOR THEIR PARENTS.**

M. PRAY THAT THEY WILL LEARN TAKE CAPTIVE EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE AND MAKE THEM OBEDIENT TO CHRIST.

1. **GOD'S WORD SAYS...**

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2. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NASB)** For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and **we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,**

3. **“IN THE NAME OF MY SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, I GIVE NO CONSENT TO THAT THOUGHT, SATAN. AND IN JESUS’ NAME YOU MUST GO... NOW!”**

4. **Matthew 4:8-11 (NASB)** Again, the devil *took Him to a very high mountain and *showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." **Then Jesus *said to him, "Go, Satan!** For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'" **Then the devil *left Him;** and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.

6. **HOW SHOULD WE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN?**
 - A. **BE SO CLOSE TO YOUR CHILDREN (STUDY THEM) THAT YOU KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN THEIR LIVES... SO YOU WILL KNOW HOW TO PRAY SPECIFICALLY FOR EACH ONE OF THEM.**

 - B. **FIND SCRIPTURE THAT RELATES TO THE ISSUES YOUR CHILDREN ARE FACING... AND PRAY GOD’S WORD FOR THEM.**
 1. **WHEN WE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN DIRECTLY FROM GOD’S WORD... WE PRAY IN HARMONY WITH GOD’S WILL FOR THEIR LIVES.**

 2. **WHEN WE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN DIRECTLY FROM GOD’S WORD... WE ARE SEEKING GOD’S WILL RATHER THAN OUR WILL.**

 3. **WHEN WE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN DIRECTLY FROM GOD’S WORD... WE SURRENDER OUR SOMETIMES FOOLISH MISCONCEPTIONS OF WHAT IS BEST FOR THEM BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT GOD’S WAYS ARE NOT OFTEN OUR WAYS.**

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- C. **PRAY... OUT LOUD.**
 - D. **PRAY... WITH THEM AND FOR THEM.**
 - E. **PRAY... OFTEN/WITHOUT CEASING.**
 - F. **PRAY... EVERYWHERE.**
 - G. **PRAY... ABOUT LITTLE THINGS.**
 - H. **PRAY... ABOUT BIG THINGS.**
 - I. **CONSIDER KEEPING A PRAYER JOURNAL FOR THEM TO READ IN THE FUTURE.**
7. **CLOSING: PRAYER WILL NOT ONLY DRAW US CLOSER TO YOUR GOD... IT WILL DRAW US CLOSER TO OUR CHILDREN!**
- A. **DISCUSS:**