

I Pray This for My Children

by Greg Harris

Adapted from blog by Dr. Harris, professor at Master's Seminary

[Rearranged, with bracketed text added]

[PRAYERS FROM EPHESIANS]

First, before praying as a [parent] for my own children, I pray [with thankfulness] AS A CHILD TO MY HEAVENLY FATHER [Eph 1:16-21, Eph. 3:14-15] . . .

- that God will bless beyond our capacities and limitations to be parents [for His glory; Eph 3:20-21]
- for my own walk with God (Eph 4-6) before I pray for their walk; it starts with me, not with them;
- for my [spouse's] walk with God (singular) and ours collectively as husband and wife,
 - for our marriage, (Eph 5:22-33)
 - for our parenting; (Eph 6:1-4);
 - for what to say; for what not to say [Eph 4:29]
 - for wisdom and discernment in each of these areas; [Eph 5:15]
 - for godly disciplining that will not exasperate. (Eph 6:4)

I pray . . .

- that my CHILDREN will come to a saving grace of God early in their lives; [Eph 1:13]
- that they will [praise, glorify, and] worship God in spirit and truth frequently; [Eph 1:14, 5:18-21]
- that they will be thankful to God and to others; [Eph 1:15-16]
- that true biblical Wisdom will be their close associate; [Eph 1:17]
- that they will know experientially that He alone is worthy to receive all glory, honor and praise and live their lives accordingly; [Eph 1:17-21];
- that they will not be conformed to this world, but instead they will be transformed by the renewing of their minds [Eph 4:23] and the washing of water with the Word. (Eph 5:26)

[OTHER PRAYERS FROM OTHER SCRIPTURES]

I pray . . .

- that their hearts will always be tender before God; (2 Chron. 34:27)
- that their hearts will always be inclined to God; (Josh. 24:23)
- that they will fear God and turn away from evil; (Job 1:8)
- that God will raise up godly influences for them, and that they will become godly influences; that they will have godly friends and be godly friends to others; [Psalm 1, I Cor. 15:33]
- that God will make them be/become blessings to others; (Philemon 7)
- that God will grant them an insatiable hunger and thirst for Him and His Word; (1 Pet. 2:1-2)
- that they will have a Second Coming mentality; (1 John 3:1-3)
- that they will live their lives with eternity in view; (Phil. 3:20-21)
- that they will come under strong conviction when they sin; (Ps. 51)
- that they will confess their sins to God (1 John 1:9) and to others; (James 5:16)
- that God will protect them from themselves, violent people and the evil one. *(I received these three prayer items from a godly uncle of mine who has since gone home to be with the Lord);*

I pray for MY CHILDREN'S SPOUSES, if they are to have them (1Cor; 7:7) . . .

- that God will cultivate godliness within them and the same traits already mentioned;
- that God will bring them together at the proper time;
- that they will honor Him in their courtship and keep them pure before Him;
- that God will be the center of their home and this become evident to others;
- that God would bring them to a godly, Bible-centered church, where they may grow in their walks with the Lord, both individually and collectively.

I pray . . .

- that my DAUGHTER will become a Proverbs 31 woman and my SON an Ephesians 5 man whether God grants them spouses or not;
- that God will be at work within them both to will and to do according to His good pleasure; (Phil. 2:13)
- that they grow in the grace and knowledge of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; (2 Pet. 3:18)
- that they grow in favor with God and man; (Luke 2:52)
- that they will walk with God all the days of their lives; (Judges 2:7; 1 Sam. 1:11; Ps; 23:6)
- that God will grant them a sense of excellence in doing things unto the Glory of God in the everyday activities of their lives. (1 Thess. 4:1 and 4:10; 1 Cor. 10:31; 2 Cor. 1:20)