

# HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

## Psalm 127:3-4

### Part 1

**Introduction:** In the next few weeks, we will be looking at the family. We will look at what the Bible teaches about how to raise children the Bible way. We will spend time on how they should respond to authorities in their lives. These are a few of the five messages I have planned for this series.

Of course we will be looking today how to pray for your children and grandchildren. I am not an expert. I could not in real honesty wear a shirt that says "world's greatest dad". Every dad may not be so honest. A dad will make mistakes. That is why we need the Word of God to guide us in our rearing of our children. So we will be looking together on our family. In our children's lives, our homes should be the greatest place they want to be. The other one is church. But many homes are nothing but a hotel. It is where you eat and sleep.

The word "heritage" is a possession from the Lord. Your children and grandchildren is something that you can take you to heaven with you. But you want them enjoy the words of our Lord Jesus.

Matthew 25:21

***"His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."***

J. Sidlow Baxter wrote that, our children may reject our appeals, question our authority, and doubt our arguments, but they are helpless against our prayers. This is why we should pray for them. It is our goal to help us know how we can pray for our children and grandchildren.

## I. PRAY FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN THAT THEY WILL KNOW CHRIST AS SAVIOUR EARLY IN LIFE.

Psalm 63:1

***"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is"***

2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:15

***"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."***

Why should we want them to get saved early in life? Let me answer this with the scripture first.

Ecclesiastes 12:1

***"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them"***

1. You can prevent your children from many sins that plagued you especially if you get saved later in life.
2. It is possible that a child could die early in life. A child who know right from wrong will go to hell even they are young without the Lord Jesus. You did not have to teach your child to lie or steal cookies. They did so because they inherited their parents sinfulness. It is important that you don't force them to be saved. My oldest son got saved early in his life. He tried his best to get his brother, Ben, to go forward in many services.

Some children may make several professions of faith. Do not discourage this. You do not know when they will really get saved.

3. It is your job as parents to teach your children how to get saved. I will do my best to preach a plain presentation of salvation but it should be built upon your teaching at home. Of all the souls that you win to Christ, none will mean as much to you as when

your child gets saved.

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

***"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."***

## **II. PRAY FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN THAT THEY WILL BE CAUGHT WHEN GUILTY.** Psalm 119:67; 71; 75

***"Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word." "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes." "I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me."***

The worse thing you can do for your child or children is take their side first against an adult that is in charge. Find out all the facts before making any judgments.

One day most of our children will be driving on their own. They will be tempted to speed. Before you say, "not my child", think back when you first went out on your own, you probably were speeding too. So pray for them that they will be safe. But you can pray that if they break the law that they will be caught. The time that they are caught may help them stay right the rest of their lives.

One day while Miss Wanda and I were both on night shift when our boys were older teenagers. I got home first. I got a telephone call from my supervisor telling me that my oldest son was involved in a wreck. He was okay. His mother came home and we went to the accident. He had went through an intersection in the fog and hit a car. His truck flipped several times. He got a ticket for it. I went to court with him. I stood behind and to the side of him. I never spoke for him. He answered the judge's questions. He was ready to accept what the punishment for his accident. The judge allowed him to have a prayer for judgment which meant he would not break the traffic laws again for a period of time or he would be fined. When the judge gave the prayer for judgment, he looked me and asked if I was the young man's dad. I told him that I was. He thank me for coming and allowing him doing his job without arguing with him. He was guilty and he was caught.

**Conclusion:** I know we have not gone far but this is a very important subject in our children's lives. If we don't pray for them, who will?