

Prayer Topic #10:

A Prayer for Abused Children and Youth in the United States of America

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 95, Psalm 20

Reflections of the Heart:

Although there are persons who may have a difficult beginning in life, their beginning does not have to define their future. Let's remember those children and youth who have been abused and neglected in our prayers and trust that they will become all that God created them to be.

Scriptural Prayer:

Exalted Father, we thank You for the children in the United States of America. Thank You for families and systems that have been established to care for those who cannot protect themselves. Thank You for caring for the children and youth in our nation who do not have stable home environments. Lord, all the earth will shout joyful praises to You and sing about the glory of Your Name. We, Your children, will tell the world how glorious You are. Your enemies cringe before Your mighty power. Lord, we praise You! It is good to sing praises to You, our God. It is pleasant and fitting to give You praise. You heal the brokenhearted and bandage their wounds. Lord, You are great and Your power is absolute. Your understanding is beyond comprehension.

Honorable Father, You have not ignored or belittled the suffering of the needy, nor have You turned Your back on them. But, Lord, You hear Your people when they call to You for help and You rescue them from all their troubles. Therefore, we cry out to You for help for the children and youth of our nation who have been abused or mistreated. We cry out to You for those children who experience family dysfunction, depression, separation, loss, mental and emotional problems, and are in need of safe, loving and secure homes. We confess that as these children and youth look to You as their Shepherd, they will have all that they need. We declare that every parent in the United States of America will recognize that their child is a gift and a reward from You. We confess that fathers will not provoke their children to anger by the way they treat them. They will bring them up with the discipline and instruction that come from You. Lord, we declare that You will be a refuge in time of trouble in the lives of those children and youth who are now in the child welfare system. We declare that every relative, foster family, group home and treatment facility staff member walks in the Fruit of the Spirit and shows Your love, Father, towards these children and youth. We confess that each child and youth will come to learn the good plans that You have for their lives to give them a future and a hope.

List the names of those you know who are in the child welfare system or those who work in this area. Now, ask the Holy Spirit how to pray specifically for them:

Worthy Father, we ask You to strengthen and encourage the children and youth that have experienced abuse and/or neglect of any kind. Lord, break generational curses, strongholds and feelings of hopelessness and helplessness that lead to transgressions against children and youth. Holy Spirit, please heal every emotional, physical and spiritual wound that has been inflicted upon these children and youth. Help them to overcome their adverse situations so that they will grow to become effective, positive, God-fearing men and women. Lord, refresh and renew every employee who works in the child welfare system in this nation. Help them to not grow weary while doing good; but remind them they will reap if they do not faint. Lord, help biological families obtain resources and services in an expedient manner, so that their families can be reunited. Give wisdom to those who work in this system, so that children and youth who are permanently removed from their homes will be placed with loving, compassionate, caring families where they can grow in peaceful habitations and secure dwellings.

Righteous Father, please forgive parents for acts of sinfulness. Forgive those parents who have inflicted their children and youth with mental, emotional, physical, sexual and spiritual abuse. Forgive those who become

foster parents for unholy reasons. Forgive our society for failing to protect, provide and promote safe environments for our children and youth. Forgive us, the Body of Christ, for being insensitive to the needs of children and youth who have been abused and/or neglected of any kind. Forgive child welfare personnel for growing weary while doing their jobs. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind the abused and/or neglected children and youth in the United States of America of those they need to forgive and help them to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to show you names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He shows you, say aloud, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

Wonderful Father, help the abused and/or neglected children in the United States of America to not yield to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

Sovereign Lord, You are the Triumphant One. You laid the foundations of the earth and determined its dimensions. You kept the sea inside its boundaries and locked it behind barred gates, limiting its shores. You are the Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent King and we adore You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 66:1-3, Psalm 147:1-5, Psalm 22:24, Psalm 34:17, Psalm 23:1, Psalm 127:3 NKJV, Ephesians 6:4, Psalm 9:9, Galatians 5:22, Jeremiah 29:11, Galatians 6:9, Isaiah 32:18, Mathew 6:13, Job 38:4-5,8,10

Today, I will trust God to:
