A Prayer for Caregivers

Worthy Father, we praise Your wonderful Name. Thank You for those of us who have assumed the responsibility as caregiver for a parent, relative or others. Thank You for Your sufficient grace which is given to each of us daily. Thank You for working in us and giving us the desire and power to do what pleases You. We are grateful for the willingness to model Jesus in the way that we give of our lives to meet the needs of others. Heavenly Father, we have seen You in Your sanctuary and gazed upon Your power and glory. Your unfailing love is better than life itself. How we praise You! Because You are our Helper, we will sing for joy in the shadow of Your wings. We cling to You. Your strong right hand holds us securely. How joyful are those of us who fear You, Lord. We delight in obeying Your commands.

Holy Father, we confess that in Your unsearchable wisdom, You have graced us as our caregivers. We declare that we will not get tired of doing good; but we will persevere until the appointed time for us to reap our harvest of blessing. As we trust in You to fill us with new strength, we will soar high on wings of eagles. We will run and not grow weary. We will walk and not faint. We will remain strong and courageous; confident that the sacrifices we are making will be rewarded. Lord, we decree that even when we plant in tears, we will harvest with shouts of joy. No matter how challenging the task, we will do everything without complaining or arguing so that no one can criticize us. As we do this, we will shine like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. We declare that from Your glorious, unlimited resources, You, our Father, will empower us with inner strength through the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, give us comfort as we spend our lives comforting others. Lord, for those of us who are now parenting a parent or guardian, please help us to process this role reversal and give us the strength and wisdom to handle this change without disrespecting our parent or guardian. Remind us all that the Father sees our sacrifices and He will reward us. Encourage us as caregivers to not neglect our mental and physical health and help us to find healthy, holy ways to relax. Please send others to relieve us of our duties so that we can enjoy rest, fun and relaxation. Lord, please help us all to not grow resentful or angry; but help us to roll our cares upon You and trust that You will take care of us and the loved ones we are caring for.

Gracious Father, forgive those who take us for granted as caregivers. Forgive those who selfishly overload us with tasks. Forgive those of us who are caregivers for succumbing to anger and frustration when we should be patient and tenderhearted. Forgive those of us who are caregivers for murmuring and complaining, and for being inconsiderate. Forgive those of us who have been negligent and lazy while caring for others. Lord, forgive me for (*list any sins that you have committed*). Holy Spirit, remind us all of those we need to forgive and help us 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 and faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He shows you, say aloud, "I forgive <u>names of person(s)</u>." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)*

Holy Spirit, help us all not to yield to temptation; but deliver us from the evil one.

O Holy One of Israel, You are King! Let the nations tremble. You sit on Your throne between the cherubim. Let the whole earth quake! You sit in majesty in Jerusalem, exalted above all the nations. We exalt You and bow low before Your feet, for You are holy! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: II Corinthians 12:9 NKJV, Philippians 2:13, I John 3:16, Psalm 63:2-3, 7-8, Psalm 112:1, Galatians 6:9, Isaiah 40:30-31, II Chronicles 15:7, Psalm 126:5, Philippians 2:14-15, Ephesians 3:16, Matthew 6:6, Psalm 55:22, Matthew 6:13, Psalm 99:1-2,5

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