

Prayer Topic #7:

A Prayer for Children and Youth in the Greater Houston Area

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 95:1-7, Mark 10:13-16

Reflections of the Heart:

“If there is anything that we wish to change in the child, we should first examine it and see whether it is not something that could better be changed in ourselves.” ~C.G. Jung, Integration of the Personality, 1939

Scriptural Prayer:

Great and Holy Father, we thank You for rewarding us with the gift of beautiful, healthy, strong, and bright children and youth. They are indeed a blessing! Thank You for all the opportunities You afford us to be affected by their innocent wonder and joyful enthusiasm. May we always seek to emulate these qualities in our own walk of faith. Thank You for keeping our children and youth safe and always in Your watchful care. Thank You for being their Heavenly Father. We will proclaim Your power. We will meditate on Your majesty, Your glorious splendor, and Your wonderful miracles. Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue and we will proclaim Your greatness. We will all share the story of Your wonderful goodness. You made the earth by Your power, and You preserve it by Your wisdom. With Your own understanding, You stretched out the heavens. We praise Your great and awesome Name. Your Name is holy!

Glorious Father, we know that it pleases You when our children and youth obey their parents. As their parents, we will treat them with kindness and understanding so as not to aggravate them and cause them to become discouraged. It is Your will that we walk in integrity before our children and youth and that they be blessed as they follow our example. We declare that we will not follow the advice of the wicked, nor stand around with sinners; neither will we join in with mockers. But we will delight in Your Word. As a result, our children will follow our example. In Jesus' Name, the appetites of our children and youth will be far from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. By faith, we decree that they will pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. They will enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts. We declare that our children and youth who are taught of You and Your Word will enjoy great peace.

Father, I commit to intercede for (list the names of children and youth in your life and pray for their specific needs):

Holy Spirit, we ask You to move upon the hearts of our unsaved children and youth to confess with their mouths that Jesus is Lord and believe in their hearts that God raised Him from the dead so that they can be saved. Strengthen and encourage those who follow after You. Send friends who love You and will love and support them. Heal the hearts and mend the wounds of those children who are without their parents due to illness, death, incarceration, or abandonment. Encourage them with the assurance that no matter what they face in their lives, You will never fail or abandon them. Please protect them from labels, stereotypes, evil words, or comments that family or society may try to place upon them. Let them know that because they are united with Christ they have an inheritance in Him. Help them to stand for righteousness and holiness and not be ashamed of the Good News about Christ. Deal with our parents' hearts, especially young parents, to make their children their priority. Teach parents how to be Godly parents and help them to understand the importance of their role in their children's lives. Give them the strength and patience to lead by the best example. Give our children a compassionate heart so that they might forgive their parents' weaknesses and failings.

Almighty Father, forgive the sins of our children and youth (**specifically list the sins**). Forgive parents who are too distracted with the pursuit of worldly gain to properly and appropriately nurture their children. Forgive our parents for (**specifically list parental sins**). Forgive parents who abuse or neglect their children. Heal and deliver them from generational curses that cut them off from the rich and satisfying life that Jesus came to give them. Holy Father, please forgive those children and youth who have foolishly despised wisdom and brought

grief and bitterness to their parents. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind our children and youth 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.)***

Holy Spirit, help our children and youth not to yield to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

Lord, You are the Lion of Judah, the heir of David's throne. You have won the victory! How awesome are Your deeds! Your enemies cringe before Your mighty power. Everything on earth will sing Your praises; shouting Your Name in glorious songs. By Your great power, You rule forever. You, O Mighty God, watch over every movement of the nations. All honor and glory to You, our Omnipotent King, forever and ever! You are the eternal King, the unseen One who never dies. You alone are God! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 127:3, Psalm 145:4-7, Jeremiah 10:12, Psalm 99:3, Colossians 3:20-21, Proverbs 20:7, Psalm 1:1-2, II Timothy 2:22, Romans 10:9, Proverbs 22:6, Hebrews 13:5, Ephesians 1:11, Romans 1:16, John 10:10, Matthew 6:13, Revelation 5:5, Psalm 66:3-4, 7, I Timothy 1:17

Today I will trust God to:
