

Prayer Topic #8:

A Declaration of Holiness for Our Youth

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 19:1-11, Romans 1:18-32

Reflections of the Heart:

Adolescence is a difficult but critical time in a child's life. During these years, young people begin to explore and experiment with different things and people as they try to learn who they are. Let's pray that our youth will allow the Word of God to sculpt and mold them.

Scriptural Prayer:

Loving Father, we thank You for our youth. Thank You for knowing each of them intimately. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to be their Helper and Teacher. Thank You for blessing our youth socially, academically, relationally and emotionally. Father, we sing praises to You, our God and strength. We will sing, beat the tambourine and play the sweet lyre and harp. Your dwelling place is lovely. We faint with longing to enter Your courts with our whole beings, bodies and souls. We will shout joyfully to You, the living God. Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how we praise You! We will praise You as long as we live; we will lift up our hands to You in prayer. You satisfy us more than the richest feast. We will praise You with songs of joy.

Sovereign King, we confess that our youth will truly understand that their bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit. We declare that they will give their bodies to You and will be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind You will find acceptable, for this is truly the way to worship You. They will not copy the illicit behavior and customs of this world, but they will let You, Father, transform them into new people by changing the way they think. We declare that our youth will learn and grow in Your Word. They will know Your will for them, which is good and pleasing and perfect. We decree that our youth will know You and all of Your fullness. They will worship You and be thankful. We declare that our youth will not do vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. They will not trade the truth about You for a lie. They will not worship the things You have created, instead of You, the Creator, and they will not be abandoned to shameful desires. In Jesus' Name, we declare that our daughters will not lust for other girls and our sons will not burn with lust for other boys. Matter of fact, our sons and daughters will not have sex until they marry. We cancel every generational curse of perversion. We decree that our youth will not partake in pornography, fornication, homosexuality, or any other sexual perversion. We confess that they will unashamedly run from sexual sin.

I commit to praying for the following youth who are struggling with their sexuality:

Holy Spirit, our Deliverer, some of our youth are ensnared by the sexual perversions of this world. Please remove the scales from their eyes and circumcise their hearts so that they can see themselves reflected in God's Word. Remind them that they are a chosen people, royal priests, a holy nation, Your very own possession. Deliver them from the shame and anger that perversion and sin creates in their hearts and minds. Remind them that there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus and that nothing can ever separate them from the Father's love that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Help our youth to make Godly choices. Convict them when they watch, read, listen to and visit internet sites that are ungodly. Surround them with strong Christian friends who will support them and hold them accountable when they are wrong. Lead them to people who love Christ more than culture. Empower our youth to resist peer pressure. Holy Spirit, help our parents to be actively involved in their children's lives. Help them to create holy, positive home environments for their children and youth.

Merciful Father, forgive our youth for any sexual sin they have participated in including pornography, fornication, oral sex, homosexuality, and taking inappropriate pictures of themselves. Forgive those who do not value their bodies. Forgive those parents and guardians who have not created holy environments in their homes and lived as models of righteousness and integrity. Forgive those single parents who are not living celibate lives. Forgive

those parents who allow their boyfriends and girlfriends to spend the night in the home where their children live. Forgive those married parents who are engaged in extra-marital affairs. Forgive those parents who are involved with pornography and have made pornographic material accessible to their children and youth. Forgive us, as the Body of Christ, for turning a blind eye to what our children and youth are doing. Forgive us for not openly discussing sexual purity with our youth. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind our 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 youth to not yield to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

Almighty God, You are the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to You who sits on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: John 14:26, Psalm 81:1-2, Psalm 84:1-2, Psalm 63:3-5, Romans 12:1-2, Romans 1:21,24-27, I Corinthians 6:18, Acts 9:18, Deuteronomy 10:16, I Peter 2:9, Romans 8:1,39, Matthew 6:13, Revelation 22:13, Revelation 5:13

Today I will trust God to:
