

Prayer Petition #4: A Prayer Regarding the Education and Study Habits of Our Children and Youth

Scripture Reading:

Psalms 34; Proverbs 12:1; Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-23; Proverbs 18:15

Reflections of the Heart:

Demanding that children study to increase in knowledge and understanding of whom God birthed them, their family, their community, and their nation to be in the world is God's command to parents. Training up children is more than words of intellectual suggestion. The critical foundation of growth of the mind/soul, spirit and body is information intensive. Christian children must be taught that they will not grow to the full measure of God's intent for their lives if they refuse to learn. Youth who grow up to be chronological adults living in ignorance are destroyed because of a lack of knowledge.

Scriptural Prayer:

O Lord our God, with all our hearts we praise You. We give glory to Your name forever. (Psalms 86:12) We glorify Your mighty works, singing songs of praise. (Job 36:24) Let all that we are praise You, Lord our God; how great You are! You are robed with honor and majesty. (Psalms 104:1) Thank You for sending us a mighty Savior from the royal line of Your servant David – our Lord Jesus Christ. (Luke 1:69) We thank You for placing us in a nation which values education and makes learning available to all our children. Thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit, and for His continual teaching and reminders to heed Your Word.

Heavenly Father, we proclaim from Your Word that reverential fear of You is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of You, Holy One, results in good judgment. We claim that wisdom will multiply the days of our children and youth and add years to their lives. We expect that if they learn, they will become wise; they will be the ones to benefit. If they scorn wisdom, they will be the ones to suffer. (Proverbs 9:10-12) We claim that as our children learn Your righteous regulations, they will thank You by living as they should! (Psalms 119:7) We decree that Christian parents will teach their children by example, studying Your Word diligently as they instruct their children to study their school books and lessons. We expect that these children and youth will listen when their fathers correct them. They will not neglect their mothers' instruction. What they learn from their parents will crown them with grace and be a chain of honor around their necks. (Proverbs 1:8-9) We decree that Christian students will pay attention to wisdom and listen carefully to wise counsel; they will show discernment and their lips will express what they've learned. (Proverbs 5:1-2) We declare that they will learn because they love discipline, that they know it is stupid to hate correction. (Proverbs 12:1) We proclaim that our children are intelligent and always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge. (Proverbs 18:15) Therefore, we expect them to come to school eager to pay attention and learn from their teachers. They will recognize that students are not greater than their teachers. But the student who is fully trained will become like the teacher. (Luke 6:40) They will spend the proper amount of time outside of the classroom studying and learning from a variety of sources. As technology changes rapidly, they will sharpen their computer skills. By Your grace, Father God, You have given our children different gifts for doing certain things well. (Romans 12:6a) We claim that teachers and administrators will recognize each gift and encourage each child to develop fully his or her gifts and talents.

Father, we pray that our children will take a lesson from the ants, to learn from their ways and become wise. Though ants have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work, they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter. (Proverbs 6:6-8) May our children and youth work diligently to gather the information required for each of their school subjects and spend the time to digest and utilize it properly. Lord, we covet that Christian parents will discipline their children so they will learn good study habits and that the children and youth will heed that discipline, for only a fool despises a parent's discipline; whoever learns from correction is wise. (Proverbs 15:5) May our children and youth not copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let You transform them into new persons by changing the way they think. Then they will learn to know Your will for them, which is good and pleasing and perfect. (Romans 12:2) Holy Spirit, inspire our people and politicians to provide adequate funding for enrichment programs in schools and for early childhood education.

Holy Spirit, train me in the knowledge of proper study habits so I can be of benefit to children in my sphere of influence.

You are merciful to us, O Lord, for we are calling on You constantly. (Psalms 86:3) You offer forgiveness, that we might learn to fear You. (Psalms 130:4) When our youth recognize their poor study habits, repent and desire to improve, forgive

those whose attitudes have said, "How I hated discipline! If only I had not ignored all the warnings? Oh, why didn't I listen to my teachers? Why didn't I pay attention to my instructors?" (Proverbs 5:12-13) Holy Spirit, convict parents and teachers who are not qualified or who are not training students how to study and how to learn so they may repent and seek God's forgiveness. Inspire leaders in government and education to repent of personal greed and seek forgiveness for not equipping all schools with the materials children need to become properly educated. Father, forgive me for *(list the sins, say them out loud to the Lord)*. 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 out loud, "I forgive name of person(s)."*)

Holy Spirit, remind educators and students not to yield to temptation, and that Jesus Christ has delivered believers from the evil one.

O God, You are so wise and so mighty. Who has ever challenged You successfully? (Job 9:4) True wisdom and power are found in You; counsel and understanding are Yours. (Job 12:13) You are all-powerful. Who is a teacher like You? (Job 36:22) Your Son, Jesus Christ, radiates Your own glory and expresses Your very character. (Hebrews 1:3a) And it is in His precious name we pray. Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text:

Today I will trust God to:
