

**Petition #3 (RW – partial revised prayer):**

**A Prayer for Communication in Parent/Child Relationships**

**Scripture Reading:**

Psalm 34:1-3, 11-14; Psalm 127:3, Proverbs 4:1-27, Ephesians 6:4, Proverbs 18:21

**Reflections of the Heart:**

The rule of successful communication is founded on mutual respect and understanding, speaking clearly to be heard and listening to what is said before responding. Godly Parents are responsible to teach by word and by example, as they live as God's role models before their children.

**Scriptural Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will thank You forever and ever; praising Your greatness from generation to generation. We thank You for Your gifts of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, thank You for hiding Your truth from those who think themselves wise and clever, and for revealing them to the childlike. Lord, we praise You for You have blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. O God, we will give glory to You all day long and constantly praise Your Name.

Worthy Father, as the body of Christ, we declare that as our parents and children communicate with each other they will remember that a gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare. Each of them will speak gentle words to one another which are a tree of life. They will not use deceitful tongues that crush the spirit. (Proverbs 15:1), (Proverbs 15:4) They will use kind words as they communicate with each other, which are like honey – sweet to the soul and healthy for the body. Our fathers and mothers will not provoke their children to anger by the way they treat them. (Ephesians 6:1 - 4a) We confess that our children will listen when their parents correct them. They will pay attention and learn good judgment, for believing parents give good guidance. (Proverbs 4:1-2a). We declare that our children will obey their parents because they belong to the Lord and this is the right thing to do. They will honor their fathers and mothers so that things will go well for them, and they will have long lives on the earth.

Heavenly Father, we pray that our parents model Your enduring discipline towards their children. (Hebrews 12:7a) Holy Spirit, help our parents strive to become more and more like, the Father, by gently guiding their children with love and wisdom. Holy Spirit, convict those parents of their sin if they speak harshly or use cruel words and physical abuse to their children. Touch their hearts so that they will stop the abuse, repent and seek God's forgiveness. Remind those children who are disobedient that if they reject discipline, they are only harming themselves; but if they listen to correction, they will grow in understanding. (Proverbs 15:32) Father, we pray that pastors, teachers, counselors, grandparents, neighbors and others who witness disturbing situations between parents and children will not ignore it, but address it. May all our parents and children commit themselves to instruction and listen carefully to words of knowledge. (Proverbs 23:12)

***Holy Spirit, remind me of when my communication has not been uplifting or my tone of voice harsh to a child or youth:***

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Loving Father, forgive our parents and children for all acts of sin. You are our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. (II Corinthians 1:3b) Forgive those parents and children who come to You in sincere repentance, so that their relationships may be healed and made whole. We pray that rebellious children will learn to seek Your forgiveness, to know that only a fool despises a parent's discipline, but whoever learns from correction is wise. (Proverbs 15:5) Father, forgive believers – whether parents or their children – who spout off before listening to the facts, which is both shameful and foolish. (Proverbs 18:13) Lord, forgive believers who witness hateful or demeaning exchanges in their own families and do nothing. Lord, forgive me for (***list any sins that you have committed.***) Holy Spirit, remind our parents and children 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.***)

Worthy Father, help our parents and children all to not yield to temptation; but deliver them from the evil one.

O God, Your voice twists mighty oaks and strips the forests bare. In Your Temple everyone shouts, "Glory!" (Psalm 29:9) Your voice is glorious in the thunder. We can't even imagine the greatness of Your power. (Job 37:5) But Your wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is peace, loving and gentle at all times. (James 3:17a) We honor You, Lord, for the glory of Your Name. We worship You, Lord, in the splendor of Your holiness. (Psalms 29:2) In Jesus' Name, Amen.

***Scripture References for the Written Text:*** Psalm 79:13, Matthew 11:25, Ephesians 1:3, Psalm 44:8, Psalm 127:3-5a, Ephesians 6:4b, Proverbs 29:17, Ephesians 6:1-4a,

***Today I will trust God to:***

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