

A Prayer for Economic Development within Families

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 104:24-34, Genesis 41:47-57

Reflections of the Heart:

"It is much harder for economies to prosper if they cannot sell to, buy from, invest with, and even transit their neighbors. Landlocked countries with failed or failing neighbors can lose access to the world economy." ~ Robert Zoellick

ONE Prayer:

Gracious Father, we thank You for providing a way for families to survive and thrive though economic development in their homes and communities. Thank You for taking care of them and supplying all of their needs from Your glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Thank You for having plans to develop families into healthy communities, plans for good and not for disaster, to give them a future and a hope. You are a great God and a great King above all gods. You hold in Your hands the depths of the earth and the mightiest mountains. The sea belongs to You, for You made it. Your hands also formed the dry land. We worship and bow down. We kneel before You, our maker, for You are our God. We are the people You watch over, the flock under Your care. We listen to Your voice today!

Almighty Father, we decree that heads of families will seek to gain wisdom in all they do, obtaining good judgement for their short and long-term goals. We confess that families are wise and understand Your ways, they will prove it by living honorable lives, doing good works that come from Your wisdom. We declare that families have not been given a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love and self-discipline. They will endeavor to ensure that there is a mighty flood of justice and an endless river of righteous and economical living for each family member. We expect the well-being and quality of life for families and communities around the world to improve through efforts that include access to quality education, jobs, food, water, healthcare and public safety. They will not get tired of doing what is good, for at the right time, if they don't give up, they will reap a harvest of blessing. They will never be lazy, but work hard and serve You enthusiastically.

Holy Spirit, help members of families to see that the decisions they make and the interests they pursue individually and collectively contribute to the economic health of their homes, their local and global communities. Touch their hearts to be on one accord, merciful and loving in their efforts to develop and sustain successful and ethical children that will champion peace and prosperity around the world from generation to generation. Remind families that the physical, emotional, spiritual and material needs of each person, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, social standing or financial capability, should be considered as they aspire for a better life. In turn, show them ways in which they can support economic success and improve the quality of living within their communities and the world at large.

Holy Spirit, reveal how I can pray for and support economic development in my family and as well as other families in my community:

Righteous Father, forgive families for all acts of sinfulness. Forgive those who have not been diligent in seeking Your leadership and direction for their family. Forgive those who do not trust in You nor Your wisdom but rely on their own limited human understanding. Forgive those who have compromised Your Word in order to make a profit and have not given back to You. Forgive those who have not treated their spouse, children and immediate family fairly and with respect and have given priority to social and work relationships. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind family members of those they need to forgive and help them to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He reveals them to you, say, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

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

Omnipotent God, how great are Your riches and wisdom and knowledge! You are the God who does great things too marvelous to understand. It is You who performs countless miracles. We praise You, Lord! Let everyone on earth bless Your Holy Name forever and ever! Everything comes from You and exists by Your power and is intended for Your glory. All glory to You forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Philippians 4:19, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 95:3-7, Proverbs 4:7, James 3:13, II Timothy 1:7, Amos 5:24, Galatians 6:9-10, Romans 12:11, Matthew 6:13, Romans 11:33a, Job 5:9, Psalm 145:21, Romans 11:36

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