

**Prayer Petition #5: A Prayer for the Family Members of our U.S. Military Personnel**

**Scripture Reading:**

Psalms 66:1-12, 16-20; Psalms 37:18-19; Psalms 68:1-4; Isaiah 2:1-4

**Reflections of the Heart:**

The U.S. military personnel are totally volunteer, made up of ordinary people like you and me, with families like ours. Each family member is to be embraced as one of our national family. In unity of purpose, each person in uniform serves all the people of our United States of America. The greatest among us Americans serve. In the image of Jesus Christ, those who give their lives that others may live, as He did for the sins of the world, will be honored by men and women and God. Let this mindset be in you which was in Christ Jesus.

**Scriptural Prayer:**

O God, You are awesome in Your sanctuary. You give power and strength to Your people. Praise be to You, Lord! (Psalms 68:35) Our hearts are confident in You. No wonder we can sing Your praises! (Psalms 57:7) We praise Your name forever and ever, for You have all wisdom and power. (Daniel 2:20) Thank You, Abba Father, for giving us earthly families who love us and on whom we can shower our love. We, Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will thank You forever and ever, praising Your greatness from generation to generation. (Psalms 79:13) Thank You for giving us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. (I Corinthians 15:57) Thank You for sending a wonderful Comforter, Your Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. (John 14:17a)

Heavenly Father, Your Word declares that for everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven, including a time for war and a time for peace. (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 8b) We in the United States of America are blessed that we have a military force composed of volunteers who have answered the call to service. One of the consequences of volunteering to serve in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard or National Guard is the possibility of being separated from one's parents, spouse, children, grandchildren and extended family. Father, when our military personnel are sent to foreign lands, we declare that their family members will not be afraid of those nations, for You, our God, are among us, and You are a great and awesome God. (Deuteronomy 7:21) In the wonderful day when our men and women in uniform return home, their families will sing, "Thank the Lord! Praise His name! Tell the nations what He has done. Let them know how mighty He is!" (Isaiah 12:4) But Lord, many in our armed services have suffered grave injuries and many others have died, so their loved ones have endured great pain and sorrow. We proclaim that You, Lord, will comfort Your people and will have compassion on them in their suffering, (Isaiah 49:13b) for You bless those who mourn, and they will be comforted. (Matthew 5:4) We declare that Your Spirit, Sovereign Lord, is upon us believers, for You have anointed us to bring good news to our military families. You have sent us to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed. (Isaiah 61:1) We expect believers to reach out to the children of military personnel who have died as well as those who are stationed far away, because Jesus has taught us that whoever welcomes one of these little children in His name welcomes Him; and whoever welcomes Jesus does not only welcome Him but also You, Father God, who sent Him. (Mark 9:37)

Holy Spirit, remind the family members of our military personnel that God is their rock, in whom they find protection. He is the shield of believing American soldiers, the power that saves them, and their place of safety. He is their refuge, their savior, the One who saves them from violence. (II Samuel 22:3) As they await the return of their loved ones, bring to their remembrance the encouragement of God's Word, that the Lord their God is living among them. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in them with gladness. With His love, He will calm all their fears. He will rejoice over them with joyful songs. (Zephaniah 3:17) For the family members of our military personnel who have been injured or killed in service to our country – especially those murdered at Fort Hood recently – Holy Spirit, minister to them so that in time they will be able to exclaim that God has turned their mourning into joyful dancing, that they might sing praises to Him and not be silent. (Psalms 30:11a, 12a) Sovereign Lord, give us Your words of wisdom so that we know how to comfort weary family members of our U.S. military personnel. Morning by morning, awaken us and open our understanding to Your will. (Isaiah 50:4)

***Lord, I will reach out to these families of military personnel I know, especially their children:***

---

---

---

O Lord, You are a God of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to become angry, and rich in unfailing love. (Nehemiah 9:17b) Family members of our military personnel may express anger against You when their loved ones are injured or die while in the service. When that happens, Father, have compassion on them and send Your messengers to teach them to seek Your forgiveness for their misplaced anger. Holy Spirit, comfort them but caution them that anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can be forgiven but anyone who speaks against You, Holy Spirit, will never be forgiven, either in this world or in the world to come. (Matthew 12:32) Father, when a spouse of someone in the military is unfaithful or commits adultery but comes to You in sincere repentance, forgive that person and heal that marriage. Forgive believers who repent from ignoring the needs of our military families. 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 the family members of our U.S. military personnel not to yield to temptation, and that Jesus Christ has delivered us from the evil one.

O Lord, God of our ancestors, You alone are the God who is in heaven. You are ruler of all the kingdoms of the earth. You are powerful and mighty; no one can stand against You! (II Chronicles 20:6) You are the King of glory, the Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, invincible in battle. (Psalms 24:8) You are the God of great wonders! You demonstrate Your awesome power among the nations. (Psalms 77:14) In the mighty and wonderful name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

**Scripture References for the Written Text:**

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

---

---

---