

A Prayer of Forgiveness for Families

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 108:1-5, Matthew 18:21-35

Reflections of the Heart:

It is impossible to live and not be hurt or offended. Jesus said, "If another believer sins, rebuke that person; then if there is repentance, forgive. Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive." *Luke 17:3-4*

Scriptural Prayer:

Beloved Father, thank You for loving, forgiving and saving families. Thank You for giving them opportunities each day to show love and forgiveness to their neighbors, employers, friends, families and others. Thank You for increasing Your presence, power, anointing and abundance in their work and personal lives. Lord, You are great! You are most worthy of praise! No one can measure Your greatness. Families will let all that they are praise You, Lord; with their whole hearts, they will praise Your Holy Name. They will never forget the good things You do for them. You forgive all their sins and heal all their diseases. You crown them with lovingkindness and tender mercies. You fill their lives with good things. Their youth is renewed like that of the eagle's!

Righteous Father, Your Word tells families that they are to make allowance for the faults of others and forgive anyone who offends them. They will remember You forgave them, so they must forgive others. They will be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger. We expect families to show deep love for each other and their family members and friends because love covers a multitude of sins. They will not copy the behavior and customs of this world but will let You transform them into new persons by changing the way they think. Then they will learn to know Your will for them, Lord, which is good and pleasing and perfect. By faith, we confess that families will not worry about anything; instead, they will pray about everything. They will tell You what they need and thank You for all You have done. We pray that they will be strengthened with all Your glorious power so they will have all the endurance and patience they need to succeed. They will be filled with joy!

Holy Spirit, reveal how I can pray for families to forgive themselves and others today.

Holy Spirit, help families understand that God loves them unconditionally. Reveal any unforgiveness that is in their hearts and give them wisdom and courage to seek spiritual and/or professional counseling to identify the root cause so they may heal. Remind them that when they walk in unforgiveness, they are walking in disobedience away from You and out of alignment with Your plans for them. Help them to understand unforgiveness, which is classified as a disease in medical books, can lead to heart disease, cancer and other stress-related illnesses. Touch and renew the hearts of families so they release the past and go forward, fully forgiving others of all offenses as You forgive them. Help them not to be so easily offended. Give them the peace and freedom that come from letting go and allowing You to fill their hearts with love.

Merciful Father, please forgive families for all acts of sinfulness, including jealousy, contempt, pride, bitterness, criticism, lying, gossiping, hatred, holding grudges and seeking revenge. Help them when they refuse to forgive family members who have done hurtful things. Forgive those families who choose not to forgive others for past offenses. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind all families 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 reveal names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He reveals them, say "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

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

Triumphant Lord, You are the eternal King; Your rule is everlasting. All the people of the earth are nothing compared to You. All of Your acts are just and true. You alone have held the oceans in Your hand. You measured the heavens with Your fingers and know the weight of the earth. The Lord God Almighty is Your Name. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 145:3, Psalm 103:1-5 (NKJV), Colossians 3:13, James 1:19, 1 Peter 4:8, Romans 12:2, Philippians 4:6, Colossians 1:11, Matthew 6:13, Daniel 4:34-35,37, Isaiah 40:12

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