

# **Prayers for Family and Beyond**

Condensed from "Pray Fervently in Righteous and Avail Much"

- National Day of Prayer Task Force

## **Family**

We pray fervently for the family to be a place where children learn to honor their parents, and parents nurture their children with love, and train them up to know and follow God. He created marriage for a man and woman to be bound in a covenant with Him and live as a family that follows Him. He knit us together in the womb, fearfully and wonderfully making us in His image. We pray that people would know that not one person is a mistake. He establishes generations of families, as people share their lives and love according to His Word and ways. He invites us to be part of His family, calling us His children. Having believed, we are born again into His family. We pray that all people would draw near to Him as their Heavenly Father, no matter what they experienced with their earthly parents. May He draw families closer together as they pray and study Scripture, and together serve actively in church and love their neighbors. We pray that the Holy Spirit fill our hearts and homes, binding us together in love, honor, joy, and trust.

### Church

We pray fervently for the Church, the people called by Christ' name, that they learn, love, worship and follow God together. We pray for the leaders of His body, set apart to share His love and Good News. Help us to remember we are the Church, His body not a building, and that we come together to grow in our knowledge and love of Him. And we gather to love and encourage one another to be filled with His word and Spirit, so that everywhere we go, we are His ambassadors. May we be known by His love and the spiritual fruit that shows up in our lives and glorifies Him. Help us to care for our neighbor and nation, our communities and country in such sacrificial ways, that all whom we meet will know we follow Christ and will want to follow Him too.

## **Business & Workplace**

We pray fervently for the people and places where God calls us to work. We ask that the Holy Spirit remind us that we are God's representatives of righteousness sent with the message of reconciliation.

We seek the blessings of heaven's riches, not longing for counterfeit cultural abundance, but abundant life authored by Jesus. We pray that we would work for the Lord, not disrespecting people, but knowing that the workplace is our mission field. Working in integrity, humility, excellence, and diligence, we seek to glorify God who will supply every need. We pray that the Lord will keep us from being slothful and selfish, keeping pride and greed far from us. May each person in the workplace know that their value is found in God.

#### **Education**

We pray fervently for Education—for those who learn, teach, serve, and support every area. We pray that God helps students to obtain and retain true knowledge and understanding while seeking wisdom from Him. Let no evil agenda or wicked word be taught that comes against God, His Word, and will. We pray that God protects our campuses from violence and vileness, making them a safe place to learn and to prepare students to thrive throughout life on the path that He has prepared for them. May they fill their minds with the wonder of Him, as they learn the beauty and complexity of His creation in science and His heart and hand throughout history. May they have a desire to study Scripture as they learn to read. May He prompt teachers, staff, families, and students to pray for one another, and grow Christian clubs on every campus.

## Military

We pray fervently for our men and women in uniform who sacrifice to defend freedom around the world, that God would keep them strong, courageous, and safe in the shadow of His wings. We pray that God would direct and protect them at all times, filling them with His wisdom as plans are drawn up. May He go before them, as every earthly battle reflects war in the heavenlies, thwarting evil schemes and defeating wickedness.

#### Government

We pray fervently for all who serve in every branch and level of Government. We ask that they would believe and follow Jesus, trusting Him in all their ways, hiding His Word in their heart. May they seek His hand in all they do to magnify His glory. May our laws reflect our loyalty and love to God and cause justice to flow from our courts.

### Arts, Media, & Entertainment

We pray fervently for all who inspire, entertain, and inform us. May they use their talent and gifts that God has given them to see this beautiful world through the eyes and heart of the Creator of all that exists. May those who write choose their words carefully, truthfully, and wisely to build up and not tear down, to speak life and not death. May those who perform, compete, and create experience God's strength. We lift up those who work in front of or behind the cameras, curtains, screens, and stadiums, that they project life and love through His light and lens. Living the lives He has written for them, may they humbly point their audience, fans and social media followers to see through them and follow God.

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# Prayer for Forgiveness on Behalf of Our Country

(Based on Daniel 9:8-11;18-19)

O Lord, we come to You on behalf of our country, our leaders, and ourselves. We confess that we have not obeyed Your laws as outlined in Your holy Scriptures, choosing at times to follow our own ideas and wishes rather than what You have instructed us to do. We have not sought You or loved You with all our hearts; we have not met the needs of many of our neighbors who are in distress. We have, at times, been motivated by selfishness, greed, or pride, and moved by fear, doubt, or deception. We ask You to forgive our sins and shortcomings and to cleanse us by the blood of Your Son Jesus. Please heal our land from the effects of hatred, violence, and the shedding of innocent blood. We do not make requests of You because we are righteous, but because of Your great mercy.

Father God, as Christ's followers, we ask You to please hear our prayers and act on our behalf. We pray in the name of Jesus and for the praise of Jesus, Amen.

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