

**THE
PRAYING HME
50 PRAYERS TO
BLESS YOUR CHILDREN**

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Mark J Musser Books
2018*

THE PRAYING HOME

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Special Thanks To:

God for guiding my steps and for my wife and son
who put up with my missteps.

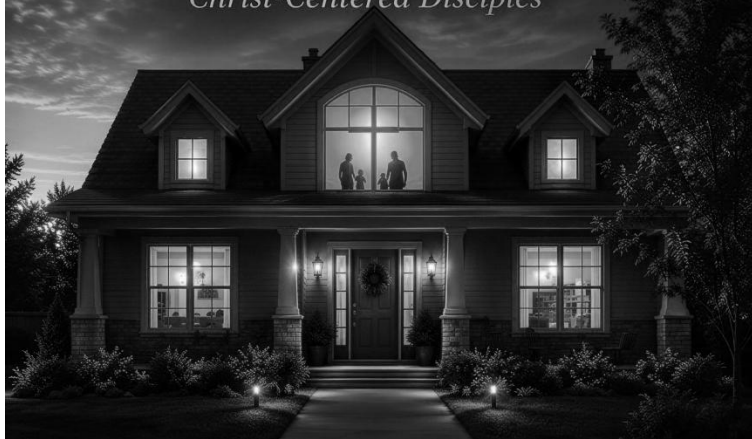
BUILD A HOME THAT SHAPES ETERNITY

MARK J MUSSER

Author of How to Raise Kids That Follow Christ, Not Culture

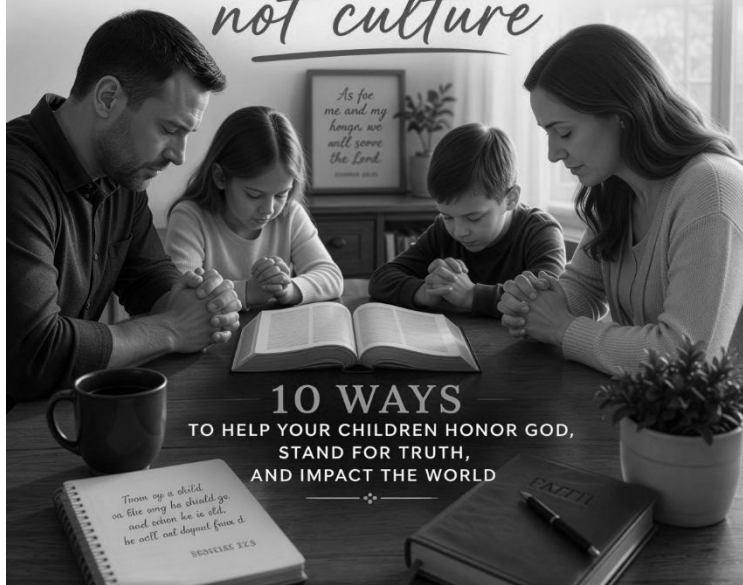
— THE —
CHRIST-CENTERED
HOME

*Turning Your Kids into
Christ-Centered Disciples*



RAISING CHILDREN THAT FOLLOW CHRIST IS THE MOST
IMPORTANT INVESTMENT YOU'LL EVER MAKE

— HOW TO —
RAISE KIDS
— WHO —
FOLLOW
CHRIST
not culture



10 WAYS
TO HELP YOUR CHILDREN HONOR GOD,
STAND FOR TRUTH,
AND IMPACT THE WORLD

MARK J MUSSER

AUTHOR OF *THE PRAYING HOME*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
50 PRAYERS	4
EPILOGUE	105
APPENDIX	107
INDEX OF PRAYERS	108

INTRODUCTION

If you were to study the lives of Christian men and women who greatly and faithfully served the Lord, you would find a common thread—their parents diligently prayed for them. We see this in the life of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. His mother, Susanna, often spoke of how the power of “persistent and prevailing prayer” worked mightily in the lives of her nineteen children. (She was the original Duggar!)

When the great missionary Hudson Taylor was eighteen years-old, he read a gospel tract. For days he couldn't shake off its message. Finally, falling to his knees, he accepted Christ as his Savior. When Hudson told his mother the good news, she said, “I already know. Ten days ago, the very date on which you tell me you read that tract, I spent the entire afternoon in prayer for you...”

Because of the tremendous power of prayer, I strongly urge you to be constantly interceding for your children. Pray for them to desire more of God, to seek His face, to truly do amazing things for Him, to love Him with all their heart, and to make a difference right where they are today.

This book is *not* meant to be a rote prayer book where you recite these same words again and again. No, it is designed as a starting point, a place for you to begin a mighty prayer life for and with your family. Using over fifty different names for God, along with two hundred plus Scripture references, I hope this book will instill in you a passion to pray and pray boldly.

It is *my* prayer that the Holy Spirit will use the prayers written here to spur the prayers you will write in this book to be used for years and years to come. Then, one day, when someone asks your grown child what enabled him or her to be used so effectively for the Kingdom, that child will respond, “My parents prayed for me, prayed for me, and then prayed for me some more.”

NOTE: When you see an asterisk (*), that denotes a Scripture reference. When you see two asterisks together (**), that denotes a double reference.

MATURITY

Sovereign Lord, I ask that as my children grow in height and years that You also enable them to grow in discernment and spiritual maturity. As they broaden their knowledge and understanding through education, let them also broaden in the knowledge of Your will and in the understanding of Your ways, so that the way they live will always honor and please You, and their lives will produce every kind of good fruit as they learn to know You more and more.*

Do not allow my children to be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. Do not allow them to be influenced by those who would trick them with lies so clever they sound like the truth.* Instead, Lord, give them a hunger for Your Word and a passion to pray. Build them up in Your truth, making them strong and confident as they keep their eyes fixed on You, the starter and finisher of their faith.*

Colossians 1:9-10; Ephesians 4:14; Hebrews 12:2

MY PRAYER SPACE

SELFLESSNESS

Gracious God, we humans are so easily side-tracked by our own wants and wishes. We selfishly pursue our own agendas while people suffer all around us, and Your perfect will goes undone. I pray, Father, that this would no longer be the case in my home. I ask that You would empower me to be a model of the very same selflessness that You displayed at the cross. Please, Lord, motivate me to daily sacrifice for my family that I may be an example for my children to follow.

Let this home be a place where my children can learn to put their needs behind the needs of others, where they can learn to take on Christ's attitude which saw Him give up His divine privileges and take the position of a slave,* and where they can learn to say along with John the Baptist, "I must become less and less."* In this world of self-centered aspirations, let my children desire to serve and not be served. Let my children desire to give their lives so that others can see You in them and be changed for eternity.*

Philippians 2:4-7; John 3:30; Mark 10:45

MY PRAYER SPACE

INTEGRITY

El `emet, God of Truth, Your Word says that *the godly walk with integrity; blessed are their children who follow them.** With that in mind, help me to be a parent of integrity. Let my life be a blueprint that provides daily renderings of honesty, constancy, sincerity, and virtue. Let my children be able to describe me as Job is described in the Scriptures—a person of complete integrity who feared God and stayed away from evil.*

Lord, strengthen my children to be young people of integrity. Fortify them to keep their promises even when it hurts,* to be honest even if it means consequences, and to let their yes be yes and their no be no.* Anchor their souls to what is right that they would not follow our natural tendency to lie, scheme, or cover up. Cement them in Your character and never let them wonder from it. Root them in a desire to keep and obey Your Word so that they will know the truth and the truth will set them free.*

Proverbs 20:7; Job 1:1; Psalm 15:4; Matthew 5:37; John 8:31-32

MY PRAYER SPACE

HUMILITY

Father, Your Word says *blessed are the poor in spirit, for they shall inherit the kingdom of God*,* so I pray that my children will be marked by a humble, contrite spirit. Banish pride and self-sufficiency from their hearts and minds and help them understand that they will always need You. Never let them forget that You are the vine and they are branches. There is nothing they can accomplish apart from You.*

The center of the word *sin* is “I,” Lord, and so is the center of the word *pride*. Don’t let my children make everything about me, myself, and I. That trinity is the exact opposite of Your holy Trinity, Father. Instead, allow their lives to be guided by a longing to glorify You and benefit others. Instill in them a passion for self-sacrifice, not self-promotion; for self-denial, not self-indulgence. May what others need always be more important than what they want. Oh, let their lives be lived in complete humility that You might exalt them on the last day.*

Matthew 5:3; John 15:5; Matthew 23:12

MY PRAYER SPACE

PEACE

Jehovah-Shalom, the God of Peace, that's what Gideon called You in the book of Judges.* At that time, the Israelites were overrun by their enemies and fear was rampant. But You promised Gideon that You would be with him, so he need not be afraid. Today, Lord, it also seems like the enemy is winning. Stress, anxiety, depression, and fear are so very common for children and teens today. But Your Word says that *the God of peace will crush Satan under [our] feet** so help my children to know that You are with them and they need not give in to fear or worry. Lift them up and keep them safe in Your strong tower.*

I know that peace is not the absence of conflict, but rather it is the steadfast trust that You are in control even in the midst of chaos. So I pray, Lord, that Your peace, which exceeds anything we can understand, will guard and protect the hearts and minds of my children* as situations, struggles, cares, and concerns swirl about them. Always make them aware, no matter what is going on around them or inside them, that Your arms are open wide, and You are eager to draw them in and protect them as a hen protects her chicks beneath her wings.*

Judges 6:24; Romans 16:20; Proverbs 18:10; Philippians 4:7;
Matthew 23:37

MY PRAYER SPACE

VICTORY

Almighty God, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, I am thankful for Your Truth which reminds me that even if we have *trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death...[that] despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.** I further know that, because of Christ, even *death is swallowed up in victory!** What great promises from the Scriptures!

I boldly come to You, Father, and pray that my children will be filled with a strong faith, for I am aware that every child of God defeats this evil world, and achieves victory, through faith in Your Son, Jesus.* Do not let Satan win any more battles in my family. Do not let him stand on any hills of triumph, proclaiming conquest. Instead, Lord, I place my children, my family, in Your mighty right hand,* and I call on You to bring an awesome victory—one so astonishing that even the unsaved around us will be amazed at who You are and what You can accomplish.

Romans 8:35,37; 1 Corinthians 15:54; 1 John 5:4; Psalm 98:1

MY PRAYER SPACE

HOPE

Father, I thank You that in Matthew 12 it tells us that Jesus is the hope of all the world.* I pray then to the source of my family's hope and implore You to permeate us with the confident expectation* that You work out all things for the good of those who love You and live according to Your purpose.* In this uncertain and ever-changing world, let my children's hope in You be a trustworthy anchor for their souls.* Allow their lives to swell with assurance and faith, knowing that You will never leave them nor forsake them.*

Many people think that this word *hope* means *wish* or *maybe*. Teach my children, Father, that hoping in You equals trust, certainty, and conviction; hoping in You is never wishful thinking. It is steadfast belief. When troubles tear at them, struggles stagger them, and difficulties threaten to derail them, let an unrelenting hope in You be their cornerstone and their foundation, so that *though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against [them], [they] won't collapse* but rather will stand tall.*

Matthew 12:21; Romans 15:13; Romans 8:28; Hebrews 6:19;
Hebrews 13:5; Matthew 7:25

MY PRAYER SPACE

STRENGTH

El Shaddai, God Almighty, I am full of praise because I know that *those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.** Because of this, I trust that when my family goes through deep waters, Your power will hold us up. When we go through rivers of difficulty, Your greatness will keep us from drowning. And when we walk through the fires of oppression, Your unfailing love will keep the flames at bay so that we are not consumed.*

Lord, even so, I know that the devil is a strong adversary, and he prowls around like a roaring lion looking for prey to devour.* Neither my children nor myself are strong enough to fight off his temptations and his lures, so I pray for You to *give power to the weak and strength to the powerless.** Enable us to scale any wall and crush any enemy.* Come, El Shaddai, and from Your glorious, unlimited resources empower my children with inner strength through Your Spirit* and let them always believe “I can do all things through Christ who gives me the strength.”*

Isaiah 40:31; Isaiah 43:2; 1 Peter 5:8; Isaiah 40:29; Psalm 18:29; Ephesians 3:16; Philippians 4:13

MY PRAYER SPACE

JOY

Lord My God, it is amazing to me that the Apostle Paul could write about joy or rejoicing thirteen times in just the four chapters of Philippians. Thinking that he can be so full of joy while penning that book from a prison cell is stunning, but I know that he could do it because His hope and His life was wrapped up in You. Gripped in that relationship, he came to realize that happiness is temporary because it is based on external circumstances, but joy is lasting because it is based on Your presence.

Oh, Lord, I pray that my family would also trade up from fleeting happiness to lasting joy as Paul did. I pray my children would not seek fulfillment in what doesn't last. Don't ever let them settle for momentary happiness when they could have everlasting joy in You. Don't ever let them seek contentment in stuff that ages, rusts, breaks, and eventually bores. No, instead let them doggedly pursue unending joy through a growing, vibrant relationship with their Maker and Sustainer. Even in troubled times, let them be able to say, *even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!**

Habakkuk 3:17-18

MY PRAYER SPACE

GENTLENESS

Jesus, I thank You for being a humble and gentle Shepherd. For in that humility and gentleness, we can find rest for our souls.* I pray that my life would emulate You. Clothe me with *the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God** so that my children would see Your character displayed in me. Help me, Lord, to be gentle and meek and warm-hearted. Let my teaching and my example fall like soft rain on tender grass, like warm showers on young plants.*

This world can be callous, coarse, and cruel, but I pray my children would be known for kindness. People can be mean and merciless, but I pray my children would be marked by meekness. Your Word states that *gentle words are the tree of life*,* so let those kinds of words flow from my children's lips that they may bring hope to the hopeless and life to the lifeless. Don't let the world warp the gentle spirit You have implanted within them. Instead, use that gentle spirit to change this world for Your glory.

Matthew 11:29; 1 Peter 3:4; Deuteronomy 32:2; Proverbs 15:4

MY PRAYER SPACE

PURITY

Lord, this world is full of impurity. TV, movies, music, video games, the internet, and more—so much more—burst with sensuality and sexual sin. Even “unplugged,” it’s so very easy for our eyes to be grabbed by billboards, magazine covers, short-shorts, and muscle shirts. Indeed, to stay pure in this world is no easy task.

So I pray now, Father, as our culture seems overrun by skin and porn, that you will empower my children to guard their eyes and protect their hearts. Instead of being enflamed with lust, let them burn with a desire to honor You by fleeing sexual sin.* Truly, I implore You to deepen their devotion to passionately pursue purity with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. Do not let lewdness win. Instead, bring a mighty victory, Lord, so that my children would be examples to a watching world in speech, life, love, faith, and purity.*

1 Corinthians 6:18, 1 Timothy 4:12

MY PRAYER SPACE

SELF-CONTROL

Jehovah Raah, God our Shepherd, I pray and ask You to faithfully guide my family through the morass of this culture. Restrain our desires and discipline our steps. Keep us safe from all of Satan's seductions. Lead us from temptation and direct us away from sin's enticements.* Lord, Your Word clearly states that *the sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants [while] the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires, [and] these two forces are constantly fighting each other*.* Great Shepherd, strengthen my family's resolve to cling to, and follow, the Spirit each and every day. Do not let us give into the sinful nature.

Father, I know the Scripture tells me that *a person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls** so easily over-run by *a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions*.* Open my children's eyes that they may see these things are not from You, that they may understand that Your boundaries and my "No's" are for their good. Please, Father, lead them through the valley of the shadow. Use Your rod and Your staff to protect them from this world and from themselves.*

Matthew 6:13; Galatians 5:17; Proverbs 25:28; 1 John 2:16; Psalm 23:4

MY PRAYER SPACE

FAITHFULNESS

I thank You, Lord, for Your steadfast care over us. If there is one thing I can be certain of in this uncertain world, it is that You are a faithful Father. *Your unfailing love, O Lord, is as vast as the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.* Truly, Your faithfulness extends to every generation [and is] as enduring as the earth You created.** Because of this, I shout along with Jeremiah, “Great is thy faithfulness!”*

Now, Father, I pray that my children would live in faithful devotion. As You have remained constant in the lives of my children, I urge You to strengthen my children to remain constant in You and Your Word. The Apostle Paul told the Corinthians that he feared the devil would corrupt their pure and undivided devotion as he did with Eve.* I confess that same fear, Lord, so I implore You to lead my children from the temptation to deny Your truth and forsake Your commands. Let my family always stay faithfully by Your side, safe in the shadow of Your wings.*

Psalm 36:5; Psalm 119:90; Lamentations 3:23; 2 Corinthians 11:3; Psalm 17:8

MY PRAYER SPACE

LOVE

Lord of unfailing love, I cannot pray this prayer with any better words than the ones found in 1 Corinthians 13. So, Abba, I confess that *if I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.** Please, Father, never let me forget that this is so.

Now, gracious Heavenly Father, I ask that You come and love my children through me. Use me to show my children that *love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.** Oh Lord, let my family see that kind of love in me and then share it with a world in desperate need of it.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

MY PRAYER SPACE

PATIENCE

Most merciful Lord, I am thankful that You have great patience with even the worst of sinners.* You see everything I do, hear everything I say, and know everything I think, yet still invite me in when I draw near, listen to me when I speak, and forgive me when I ask—even if it's for the ten thousandth time. Your longsuffering with me and my mistakes is truly an amazing blessing. I am beyond grateful that You are a God that is full of compassion, abounding in mercy, and slow to get angry.*

Now, Father, just as You are enduring and patient with me, Your struggling child, I pray that You will enable me to be so with my own children. Strengthen me to be patient with their faults, their short-comings, and their personality quirks.* Remind me to forgive them as often and as easily as You forgive me. Help me to remember that maturity takes time and that You are working in my children even when I cannot see it. I know, Lord, that in this “instant world” where we can seemingly have everything we want in just minutes, patience is a lost virtue. But let my children and I hold tightly to this virtue, Lord. Empower us to wait patiently for all the good You want to do in and through us.

1 Timothy 1:16; Psalm 86:15; Colossians 1:11

MY PRAYER SPACE

KINDNESS

Good Father, I praise You for the grace You have poured out on my family. I am overwhelmed whenever I think of the riches of Your kindness displayed in the freedom and forgiveness we can have through Your Son, Jesus Christ. You have showered us with compassion and goodness.* Thank You for being filled with kindness* and drawing us to Yourself through that kindness though we are so undeserving.*

I pray that this same kindness would permeate my children so that where there is animosity, my children would bring tenderness. Where there is hatred, my children would bring friendship. Where there is hostility, my children would bring peace. And where there is cruelty, my children would bring compassion. Oh Lord, let this kindness never leave them. Let it be written deep within their hearts, so they may find favor with both You and people, and earn a good reputation.*

Ephesians 1:6-8; Psalm 145:17; Romans 11:5; Proverbs 3:3-4

MY PRAYER SPACE

SERVANTHOOD

Jesus, You came to this earth to serve and not to be served. Help my family and I to follow Your example. I know, in this world, everyone wants to be a leader and flaunt their authority, but let that not be said of us.* Saturate us with Your presence that we would desire to serve others more than be served, that we would desire to bless others more than be blessed, and that we would desire to give to others more than getting from others. In this way, Lord, we would brightly reflect Your light in this darkening world.*

Savior, I pray that my family could say along with John Wesley, “I am no longer my own, but Yours. Put me to what You will, rank me with whom You will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed for You or laid aside for You, exalted for You or brought low for You. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to Your pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You are mine, and I am Yours. So be it.”^{[1](#)}

Mark 10:41-45; 2 Corinthians 3:18

MY PRAYER SPACE

MIND OF CHRIST

Father, Your Word tells us that we cannot understand Your truth and Your will without the Spirit giving us the mind of Christ.* So I pray, Lord, and ask that You fill my family with that mind and that understanding. Come and open our eyes and ears to see as You see and to hear as You hear. Come and change our hearts to be grieved by what grieves You, to hate the things You hate, and to rejoice in the things that bring You joy.

Lord, I seek Your work in my children's hearts and minds. I pray that they would love as You love,* be holy as You are holy,* be pure as You are pure,* do right as You do right,* and have the same attitude You have.* *May [they] always be filled with the fruit of [their] salvation—the righteous character produced in [their] life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to [You].** Don't allow them to copy the behavior and customs of this world, instead transform them by the renewing of their minds, so that they will learn to know Your will, which is good and pleasing and perfect.*

1 Corinthians 2:13-16; Ephesians 5:2; 1 Peter 1:16; 1 John 3:3; 1 John 3:7; Philippians 2:5; Philippians 1:11; Romans 12:2

MY PRAYER SPACE

SALVATION

Savior of the World, when I think that You suffered and died on the cross in my place for my sins, I am undone. Truly, if You never did another thing for humanity, You have already done far more than we deserve. The promise of eternal salvation through Your sacrifice is, by far, the greatest gift ever given in the history of the world, so it is no small thing for me when I ask that You draw my children to Yourself and open up their hearts to who You are and what You have done.

With all my heart, Lord, I pray that they would know the truth of John 3:16, that You came as the one and only Son of the Father and gave Your life so that all who believe in You would not perish but have everlasting life.* I pray that they would understand that there is salvation in nothing or no one but You* and that they cannot earn their way to Heaven or be good enough to receive it. God's gracious gift of eternal life is found in You and You alone.* Please give me the wisdom to plainly share these truths and quicken their hearts to accept them. May the joy of salvation be found in this home!

John 3:16; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:9

MY PRAYER SPACE

BLESSED

Jehovah Jireh, the Lord who Provides, I pray that You would bless and protect my family, that You would smile upon us and be gracious to us, that you would show Your favor and give us rest.* Anoint us with Your presence so that, knowing You are near, we would face each trial and each challenge with strength and courage.* Fill us with Your Spirit that we may experience comfort when hurting, guidance when confused, hope when in despair, and a peace that passes all understanding.*

Lord, You are our Shepherd, so we shall not want. Make us lie down in green pastures, lead us beside the still waters, and restore our souls. Direct us down the paths of righteousness for Your name sake. Even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil, because we know that You are with us; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort us. Prepare a table before us in the presence of our enemies and anoint our heads with oil 'til our cup runs over. Father, allow goodness and mercy to follow my children all the days of their lives; so they may dwell in Your house forever.*

Numbers 6:24-26; Deuteronomy 31:6; Philippians 4:7; Psalm 23

MY PRAYER SPACE

NEW CREATION

Lord, You are the Author of Life. You breathed the breath of life into each person and fashioned us in such a way that we would be able to have a deep and intimate relationship with our Creator.* When sin severed that relationship, You, again, provided a way to experience new life through Your Son, Jesus Christ. My family will literally be eternally grateful for that provision. Help us now to embrace the new creation that You made possible when we first put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

Let it always be in the forefront of our minds that *[our] old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer [we] who live, but Christ lives in [us]. So [we] live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved [us] and gave Himself for [us].** Never let my family and I forget that *Jesus died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them...The old life is gone; a new life has begun!** Strengthen us to no longer live as the world does. Instead, Lord, empower us to grasp firmly to our heavenly citizenship that we would conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ.*

Genesis 2:7; Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 2:15,17; Philippians 1:27

MY PRAYER SPACE

HEIR/CHILD OF GOD

Lord, in Scripture, You are called Heavenly Father, God the Father, the Father of Compassion, and simply Abba (Daddy). My family is so incredibly blessed to know the Creator of the Universe in such a relational way. To think that we can be called Children of God and be heirs of Your glory is utterly amazing.* Thank You for *sending Christ to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that [You] could adopt us as [Your] very own children!**

Abba, bless my children now that they would bring honor to Your name by living clean, innocent lives and *shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.** Help them, Holy Father, to feel and experience the vastness of Your unfailing love. And please don't allow Your love to simply stay within them. Fill them with a passionate desire to love You in return and to show Your love to others. Let this needy and hurting world encounter a Father's love through my family.

Romans 8:17; Galatians 4:5; Philippians 2:15

MY PRAYER SPACE

PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

Lord, in Your wisdom, You planned for each person who accepted Your generous offer of salvation to become part of the Body of Christ. And just as each part of our physical bodies have a special function, so it is with the Body of Christ.* Through the power of the Holy Spirit, all of Your children have been given gifts and abilities so that we can fulfill the role You've called us to within the Body.** Thank You for that.

May my children always remember that the gifts, talents, and abilities You have bestowed upon them are not for themselves, so they could selfishly be used for personal and material gain. Instead, Father, constantly remind them that Your gifts are given to bless the Body and to help it grow healthy, strong, and full of love.* And please, Lord, I also ask that You never let them think that their gifts are too small or unimportant. Strengthen them to always remember that every part of the Body is a necessary part.* And each time Your Body functions as it should; someone, somewhere is blessed.

Romans 12:4-5; Romans 12:6; 2 Corinthians 12:4,7,12; Ephesians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 12:27

MY PRAYER SPACE

MASTERPIECE

Jehovah Hoseem, Lord our Maker, You are our Creator and King. Your Word tells me that my family and I are Your masterpieces.* The word for *masterpiece* is the Greek word *poiema*, and it's where we get our word for *poem*. It is astounding to think that just as a skilled poet expertly joins words together to design a stunning work, so You have expertly joined mind, body, and soul together in each member of my family to create priceless treasures. How blessed I am to know this!

Father, I understand that people will come along saying and doing things that will denigrate and discourage my children. I know people will chop them down with their words and make them feel like less than nothing. During these times, I pray that You will help them to remember that You perfectly made all the delicate, inner parts of our bodies and knit us together in the womb. You made us wonderfully complex and your workmanship is marvelous.* And when You created us, You didn't simply say, "It is good." You proclaimed, "It is *very* good."*

Ephesians 2:10; Psalm 139:13-14; Genesis 2:31

MY PRAYER SPACE

FUTURE SPOUSE

Lord, one of the biggest questions about my children's future is who their spouses will be. While these people are unknown to me, Father, they are not unknown to You. In fact, not only are they intimately known by You, I believe that You formed and fashioned those individuals to be the perfect partners and companions for my children, so I pray that You would keep all involved from making any decisions that would negatively impact what You have planned.

You are El Roi, the God who Sees, so I know that even as I pray, You are watching over these young people and guiding their steps. I ask Lord that You fill them with a love deep and strong enough to quickly and easily forgive.* Let them be people who trust in You with all their hearts, do not depend on their own understanding, and seek Your will in all that they do.* Work in their lives that they may hunger and thirst for righteousness* and seek first Your kingdom above all else.* Finally, Lord, empower them to keep and stay pure that they may honor You with their bodies and enter into their marriage as virgins.

1 Peter 4:8; Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 5:6; Matthew 6:33

MY PRAYER SPACE

HOLINESS

Father, in Scripture, You are often referred to as The Holy One. In the Old Testament, the angels gloriously pronounced, *“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven’s Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!”** While in the New Testament, we hear the angels triumphantly shouting, *“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty—the one who always was, who is, and who is still to come.”** Today, Lord, help me to sing along with Moses, *“Who is like you among the gods, O Lord—glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, performing great wonders?”**

But not only are You known as the Holy One, Father, You are also known as Jehovah M’Kaddesh—the Lord Who Makes Us Holy. So I pray that You would cleanse my family from everything that defiles our bodies or spirits and that You would lead us toward complete holiness.* Fill my children with a desire to pursue lives of righteousness and honor.* Enable them to live as Your obedient children and not seek to satisfy their own desires. Let them strive to be holy in everything they do, *for the Scriptures say, “You must be holy because I am holy.”**

Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 4:8; Exodus 15:11; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:4; and 1 Peter 1:14-16

MY PRAYER SPACE

EXPERIENCING GOD'S GLORY

Great God, Great King, King of Glory, God of Glory, Lord of Glory, and so many more. All these names in Scripture point to Your majesty, splendor, and awesomeness. Mighty One, when we read the word *glory* in the Old Testament, it literally means *heavy* or *weighty*. This means who You are is no small thing! You are substantial and strong and steady and solid. You are vast and limitless, awe-inspiring and magnificent. Oh, Father, how I want my children to know You like this!

As the waters fill the sea, I pray my children will be filled with the awareness of Your glory.* Your Word wonderfully states that when we accept Christ, a veil is torn away, allowing us to see and reflect Your glory.* Father, pull back that veil. Allow my family to see and be astounded by the power of Your presence. And just as Moses' face shone with the radiance of Your glory, Lord, let my children's lives shine brightly and radiate Your resplendence.*

Habakkuk 2:14; 2 Corinthians 3:16,18; 2 Corinthians 3:7

MY PRAYER SPACE

LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY

Lord of Glory, Your Word states, *for everything comes from [You] and exists by [Your] power and is intended for [Your] glory. All glory to [You] forever!** Never let my family forget what we were created for—to give You glory. David prayed, *O God, we give glory to you all day long and constantly praise your name.** Father, may this be true for us as well, that our lives would be consumed with giving You glory. May all our heart, soul, mind, and strength be dedicated to that one purpose.*

Almighty God, let my family live in such a way as to make Your name great. Empower us to carry Your glory around inside us wherever we go so that people will know that You showed up in a place because we showed up there. Allow Your substance and weight and might and power to go wherever we go. Let our lives be loaded up with Your greatness and magnificence as we live our lives in front of a watching world.

Romans 11:36; Psalm 44:8; Romans 6:13

MY PRAYER SPACE

IN CHRIST

Jesus, You said, *“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”** Let my family always remember these words. Help us to realize that what we can have in You is far greater than anything we could ever have or accomplish apart from You. For it is in You that we can fully experience God’s love,* the totality of His blessings,* freedom,* forgiveness,* peace,* strength,* endless treasures,* grace,* and so much more.

Savior, in John 15, You continued, *“I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.”** Saturate my children, Jesus, with a desire to obediently follow You all the days of their lives. Each morning, let them clothe their hearts and minds with You as easily as they clothe their bodies and then energize them to walk through each day hand in hand with You.

John 15:5; Romans 8:39; 2 Corinthians 1:20; Galatians 2:4;
Romans 3:24; Philippians 4:7; Philippians 4:13; Ephesians 3:8; 2
Timothy 1:9; John 15:9-10

MY PRAYER SPACE

FORGIVENESS

Savior of the world, I know that, in the Bible, the devil is known as the accuser.** When my children fall into sin, he will be there to condemn them. He will whisper in their ears that they are too sinful to be loved by a holy God, or they have sinned too many times or in such a way as to be lost forever. Do not let my children listen to those lies, Lord. Cast out Satan, lead them from temptation, and deliver them from the evil one.*

When they sin, Jesus, don't allow them to run from You. Instead, draw them to Yourself, beckoning them to give You their sins, their brokenness, and their struggles. No matter how filthy, guilty, or shame-filled the accuser makes them feel, Lord, wrap them up in Your arms and open their ears to hear You say, *"Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."** Call to them from the truth of Scripture which wonderfully promises, *if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.**

Job 1:6; Job 2:1; Matthew 6:13; Matthew 11:28; 1 John 1:9

MY PRAYER SPACE

PURPOSE

My Creator, thank You for forming me in my mother's womb.* There you molded me into Your workmanship, into Your masterpiece.* *You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.** Woven into my DNA is a wonderful complexity* that shapes my character and personality, imbues me with gifts and talents and abilities, and perfectly prepares me to fulfill the purpose for which You created me.

I pray, Father, that I would be an example to my children as I passionately pursue why You created me. Then, as my children grow in size, strength, and understanding, they will follow in my steps. For I know You have gifted them, Lord, with abilities—whether it be musical, athletic, mechanical, or academic--and You have blessed them with talents to succeed and thrive. But, Lord, help me to teach my children that these blessings are *not* for themselves. You have not bestowed them for self-promotion and personal gain. All Your blessings are for Your glory and the benefit of others. So, again, Lord, I pray, empower me to accomplish these purposes, so my children will grow and do as I have done.

Jeremiah 1:5; Ephesians 2:10; Psalm 139:16; Psalm 139:14

MY PRAYER SPACE

SPIRITUAL POWER

Resurrected Savior, sometimes it is hard for me to imagine that the same Spirit that raised You from the dead lives in me!* That means no matter what is going on in my life, I have the power to handle it because Your Spirit resides in me. More than that, the Holy Spirit has Your plan for my life and all the strength needed to fulfill it. Because of this, I don't have to live an ordinary life! Instead, I can allow the mighty weight of the Holy Spirit to flow through me to change lives, alter destinies, and do the extraordinary.

I also pray, Jesus, that my children *will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.** I further ask, Lord, that You make my family *complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God... who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.** Then my children would know that no matter what struggle, trial, temptation, or issue comes along, that they are not alone. You, and Your amazing power, are with them through every step of life. Victory is theirs when they trust in You!

Romans 8:11; Ephesians 1:19-20; Ephesians 3:19-20

MY PRAYER SPACE

TRUST

Lord, I think of the story in Scripture where the disciples are in the middle of a stormy sea. While they were crying out for help, You seemed to be sleeping in the back of the boat! Yet, when the time was right, You acted. Rebuking the wind and the waves, You quieted the sea, then asked The Twelve, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still not have faith in me?”* I must confess, Jesus, sometimes, when I am in the midst of difficult times, I act as if You are sleeping on the job. Help me to trust You more, Lord. Help me to understand that You are always in complete control no matter what it seems like to me. Deepen my trust that I might never forget that when the time is right, You *always* answer.

Jesus, You calmed the wind and the waves with a simple command, so fill my family with the realization that if You can calm that storm, then You can calm the stress in our lives. If You can stop nature in its tracks, then You can also stop our pain, our hurts, and our struggles in their tracks. If You can control that desperate situation on the sea, then You can also control any situation that comes raging into my family’s lives. Reinforce our trust, Lord, that we would firmly believe that no matter what is going on, You will either calm the storms or empower us to endure them.

Mark 4:35-41

MY PRAYER SPACE

BEING SALT AND LIGHT

Jesus, in the Bible, You are called the Lord of the Harvest because You made a way for people to be saved when You willingly left Your power and position in Heaven to become a child of peasants. It's amazing to think that it pleased You to leave Your majestic surroundings, so You could shine a light and pour Yourself out on a lost world. Thank You for coming, for dying, and for rising again. Thank You for making a way where there was no way.

Lord, You have called my family and I to follow in Your steps.* You have called us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.* Please, Jesus, work in me in such a way that when I get to the end of my days, I can say to my children, "I poured myself out on this world. I stood up for Christ and let my light shine. I sought to be a world changer and do all that God asked of me." Let that example permeate my children, Lord, that they would be willing to go out and meet a Christ-less culture head on, that they would be willing to step out into the culture—not to become like it—but to pour out the Gospel message and brightly shine a light for all to see.

1 Peter 2:21; Matthew 5:13-16

MY PRAYER SPACE

HARD WORKER

Sovereign Lord, in Genesis 1, Your story starts out with work, as You bring the universe into existence during the six days of creation. Likewise, in Genesis 2, You set man in the Garden of Eden and immediately give him work to do. So, from the beginning, Father, I see that You make work a priority. Moreover, Scripture repeatedly cautions against laziness, stating it leads to poverty,* scarcity,* and ruin;* while also proclaiming that loafers are worse than vandals* and as irritating as vinegar in the teeth or smoke in the eyes.* Lord, please don't allow these things to be said of me or my family.

Father, strengthen my children to follow Paul's words to Timothy: *Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed...** Energize them so that they are never lazy but rather are always diligent with their chores and school work, in their (future) employment, and in their service to the Your kingdom. Let them never be known as idlers, goof-offs, slouches, or dawdlers. Instead, stimulate their spirits to be active, attentive, eager, and industrious that they may make the most of every opportunity You present to them.*

Proverbs 10:4; Proverbs 13:4; Proverbs 21:25; Proverbs 18:9;
Proverbs 10:26; 2 Timothy 2:15; Colossians 4:5

MY PRAYER SPACE

TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Everlasting Father, You have called us to be temples of Your Holy Spirit.* This means so much more than just Your Spirit living inside of us. If that was the case, you could have just said “home,” “house,” or “residence.” But by choosing the word “temple” to describe the Spirit’s dwelling, You are conveying that our bodies are the shrine, the sacred place, in which Your Spirit not only lives, but is worshiped, revered, and honored. This means, Lord, that how we behave, think and speak, and what we let into the temple through our eyes and ears becomes critically important, for every thought, word and deed is in view.²

Master and Maker, help my family and I to realize our bodies are *the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in [us] and was given to [us] by [You]. [We] do not belong to [ourselves], for [You] bought [us] with a high price. So [we] must honor [You] with [our] bodies.** Strengthen our resolve so that we never grieve the Holy Spirit.* Work in our hearts so that we no longer seek to gratify the desires of the sinful nature* but instead live every day to please You in speech, life, love, faith, and purity.*

1 Corinthians 6:19; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 4:30;
Galatians 5:16; 1 Timothy 4:12

MY PRAYER SPACE

GRASPING THE LOVE OF GOD

Loving Father, the Apostle Paul wrote, *may you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.** Indeed, Your love is so vast and magnificent that it cannot ever be fully grasped. As an old hymn states, “Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made, Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade; To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry; Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Though stretched from sky to sky.”³ Even though this is true, Lord, I pray that my children could begin to grasp how infinitely boundless Your love truly is.

More than anything, Father, I want my children to experience the fullness of Your everlasting and unfailing love. I want them to be so sure of this love that, no matter what is happening in their lives, they are able to shout along with Paul, *nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Ephesians 3:19; Romans 8:38-39

MY PRAYER SPACE

WITNESS

Living Word, I know that everyone who calls on Your name will be saved.* *But how can they call on [You] to save them unless they believe...? And how can they believe if they have never heard...? And how can they hear unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent?** Let Your Word and Your truth go forward, Lord, in the words and actions of my family. Send us out with great boldness to tell our friends, neighbors, classmates, coworkers, and others the Good News.*

You have called us, Lord, to be Your witnesses.* More than that, You have commanded us to go into all the world, telling everyone the Good News,* so hearten us to be resolute and courageous in sharing our faith. Let us not be ashamed of the Good News, for it is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes.* Keep us from discouragement when people dismiss Your truth. Don't allow a fear of rejection to silence our voices. Instead, Lord, fill us with a fearless determination, knowing that the eternal state of every man, woman, and child on this planet hangs in the balance.

Romans 10:13; Romans 10:14-15; Acts 4:29; Acts 1:8; Mark 16:15;
Romans 1:16

MY PRAYER SPACE

DEALING WITH HABITUAL SIN

Father, I come to You praying for a child who is struggling with sin and losing the battle. I pray that You would show Yourself to my child as Jehovah-nissi, God our Banner, the One who enables us to go through life from triumph to triumph. I implore You to work mightily in his/her life, so that he/she can victoriously proclaim, *“Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”** Others may try to dissuade my child from coming to You, Satan may try to lead him/her down empty paths, and he/she may even think it can all be handled without any help. Don’t let that happen, Father. Move in his/her heart so that everything—the good, the bad, and the ugly--would be brought to the feet of Jesus.

Strengthen my child to understand this little equation: *My problem + Christ = victory*. Even though he/she may be losing battle after battle, You have won the war! As Your Truth states, *I pray that you will begin to understand the incredible greatness of his power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead...** Oh Lord, if You can overcome death, then You can overcome anything! You have more than enough power to conquer fears, to cancel sins, to restore relationships, to gain freedom from addictions, and to do infinitely and abundantly more than my child and I can ever imagine.*

1 Corinthians 15:57; Ephesians 1:19-20; Ephesians 3:20

MY PRAYER SPACE

PURSUE RIGHTEOUSNESS

Jehovah Tsidkenu, God our Righteousness, since we've been raised to new life with Christ, help us to set our sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Direct our thoughts to dwell on the things of heaven, not the things of earth, and to remember that real life is not found in anything that this world offers, but rather is found in Your Son, Jesus.* Clothe my children and I with a desire to know You more and to seek to be like You more and more with each passing day.*

Father, Your Word says that whoever pursues righteousness not only finds righteousness but also life and honor,* so fill my family with a desire to passionately pursue You and Your righteousness. Saturate us with a yearning to put aside the things of this world and chase after the character of Christ. Don't allow us to compare our lives to those around us and then convince ourselves that we are doing okay.* Instead, Lord, have our standard of measurement be Christ. Let us hunger and thirst for His righteousness* and long to be pure as He is pure.* Examine my family, God, and point out anything that does not please You.*

Colossians 3:1-3; Colossians 3:10; Proverbs 21:21; 2 Corinthians 10:12; Matthew 5:6; 1 John 3:3; Psalm 139:24

MY PRAYER SPACE

IN SUFFERING

Lord, when my child is hurting and suffering, it is almost more than I can bear. But I am grateful that You are Jehovah Rophe, the God who Heals. You understand all our sorrows, know how many tears we have cried,* heal our broken hearts, and bandage our wounds.* It brings me great comfort to know that not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without You knowing it, and Your Word says that we are far more valuable to You than a whole flock of sparrows.*

Father, You told Moses, “I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress...Yes, I am aware of their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them...”* Lord, this means You see the suffering of my child and have heard our cries of distress. Now, come down and rescue. Come down and bring healing and hope. Come down and bring refreshing and restoration. Come down and do something so amazing that everyone will know only You could have done it. Great Physician and Healer, what more can I say than I place my child in Your loving and sovereign hands and trust in You to work.

Psalm 56:8; Psalm 147:3; Matthew 10:29-31; Exodus 3:7-8

MY PRAYER SPACE

PROTECTION FROM SATAN

Lord, the devil is a powerful enemy. He is constantly on the prowl, looking for prey to devour.* Without You, my family cannot hope to stand against him and his machinations. But how blessed I am to know that You are Jehovah Rohi, the Shepherd God, and as a shepherd guides and protects his sheep against predators, so You are guiding and protecting my family. Satan wants to sow discord and disunity in my home, so I pray for You to bring peace and unity. He also wants to lead us into temptation and overwhelm us with sin, so I pray that You would lead us away from temptation and deliver us from evil.*

Your Word says *the name of the Lord is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe*.* King David professed, *the Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety*.* Knowing this, Father, I confidently ask You to keep my family safe in Your mighty arms. Be our rock and fortress. Be our tower and refuge. Be our strength and shield. Don't allow Satan to get a foothold in our hearts, minds, or home. Bar our gates and keep us safe from harm.

1 Peter 5:8; Matthew 6:13; Proverbs 18:10; Psalm 18:2

MY PRAYER SPACE

LOVING OTHERS

Lord, the Scriptures tell us that You are love,* and I am thankful that Your love is not fleeting or vacillating like the world's love. No, Lord, Yours is faithful and enduring. Truly, it is stunning to realize that nearly 120 times in Your Word we can read about the unfailing love with which You pursue us. To think, *when we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. But [You] showed [Your] great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.**

Now, Eternal God, You have charged us to take that love and share it with a world that desperately needs to experience it. Fill my family with this love, Lord. Empower us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves,* for it is this love flowing through us that will prove to the world that we belong to You.* Let our love be more than words, so we would not just say we love others but would demonstrate it with our actions.* Loving Father, open our eyes to see where we should share Your love. Open our ears to hear people calling out in want. Open our hearts and minds to understand exactly how each person needs to see Your love on display. Don't allow us to miss any opportunities to help others experience the same love You have abundantly shown us.

1 John 4:8; Romans 5:6-8; Mark 12:31; John 13:35; 1 John 3:18

MY PRAYER SPACE

ATTITUDE

Jesus, You maintained a perfect attitude in every situation because You prayed about everything and worried about nothing. Your goal was to please the Father rather than to fulfill Your own agenda. In the midst of trials, You were patient. In the midst of suffering, You were hopeful. In the midst of blessing, You were humble. Even in the midst of ridicule, abuse, and hostility, You *made no threats . . . and did not retaliate*.^{*.4}

Now, Savior, I pray that my children and I would exhibit this very same attitude.* Fill us with Yourself, Lord, that we, too, would be loving, joyful, patient, kind, good, peaceful, and gentle.* Remove from us any hint of a demanding nature, jealousy, boastfulness, pride, rudeness, or irritability.* Empower us through Your Holy Spirit, so that we will not react like the world does to negative situations, to a loss of our rights, to trials, hurts, pains, and more. When we don't get our way, when things don't happen how and when we want them to, or when life throws us one curve after another, let my home be a place where we practice reacting in a way that reflects You.

1 Peter 2:23; Philippians 2:5; Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

MY PRAYER SPACE

PROVISION

Jesus, my Provider, I think about You feeding the 5000. One little boy, with five loaves of bread and two fish, placed his meager meal into Your hands. And, in Your hands, that bare offering became more than enough to feed the multitudes, so much so that the disciples picked up twelve full baskets of leftovers.* I am comforted by this because I often look at situations in my life and conclude that I just don't have enough to deal with them. Yet, thinking of that little boy, I know that when I put those things into Your hands, well, that changes everything. You are more than able to multiply whatever is necessary to provide all that my family and I need to overcome, to endure, to grow, and to come out of those situations better than when we went into them.

I know, Lord, that Your Father asked the Israelites, *"I am the Lord, the God of everything, is there anything too hard for Me?"** Strengthen me to answer that question with faith. Faith to believe that You can provide the patience I need to deal with difficult people. Faith to believe that You can provide the endurance I need in my present struggle. Faith to believe that You can provide the joy I need in the midst of my despair. Faith to believe that You can provide the peace I need in the midst of my worry. Faith to believe that You can provide the finances I need to pay these bills. Give me this faith, Lord, and let me always remember to place my family's struggles and needs into Your hands, then to stand back and trust that what You are planning to do is too remarkable for words.*

John 6:1-13; Jeremiah 32:27; 2 Corinthians 9:15

MY PRAYER SPACE

NEVER ALONE

Father, this world can be a scary place. There are so many things in life that can overpower our strength and overwhelm our sense of hope. In those moments, the devil loves to steal in and whisper, “You are all alone. There is no one to help you.” Give us victory over those thoughts, Lord. Help my family to always remember that You are Jehovah Shammah, the God Who is There. And, through Your Son, Jesus, You are also Immanuel—God with us.** Because of this, there will never be anything we cannot handle. Even though we *will* go through trials and sorrows, You are with us through it all. So we take heart because we know that You have overcome the world.*

No matter what we go through, Immanuel, remind us that You know when we sit down and when we stand up. You know our thoughts even when we’re far away. You see us when we travel and when we rest at home. You know everything we do. You go before us and You follow us, placing Your hand of blessing on our heads. We are never separated from Your presence. In the heights and in the depths, You are there. In the morning and in the evening, You are there. When our hopes are soaring and when our hopes come crashing down, You are there—guiding, strengthening, supporting, and encouraging.* Thank You, Father. We are truly blessed.

Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; John 16:33; Psalm 139:1-10

MY PRAYER SPACE

BEING SATISFIED IN GOD

*O God, you are my God; I earnestly search for you. My soul thirsts for you; my whole body longs for you in this parched and weary land where there is no water. I have seen you in your sanctuary and gazed upon your power and glory. Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how I praise you! I will praise you as long as I live, lifting up my hands to you in prayer. You satisfy me more than the richest feast. I will praise you with songs of joy. I lie awake thinking of you, meditating on you through the night. Because you are my helper, I sing for joy in the shadow of your wings. I cling to you; your strong right hand holds me securely.**

Oh Father, as a deer longs for streams of water, let my family long for You.* Remind us that there is a God-sized hole in each of our hearts. We can stuff dollar after dollar, possession after possession, friend after friend, accolade after accolade into that hole, but the hole will still be there. Only You, God, can fill a God-sized hole. Fullness and satisfaction only come when we embrace Your sacrificial, unconditional love and enter into a relationship with You--Creator of the Universe...and the Creator of our hearts. Never let my children nor I settle by trying to fill a God-sized hole with man-sized stuff. Never let us be satisfied by anything other than You.

Psalm 63:1-8; Psalm 42:1

MY PRAYER SPACE

EXPERIENCING GOD’S MAJESTY

Father, You are the Lord God Almighty. You miraculously delivered the Israelites out of captivity in Egypt by Your mighty hand.* You split the sea by the force of Your will, so Your children could walk to safety across dry land.* You collapsed the massive walls of Jericho to give Your chosen ones victory.* You stopped the Jordan from flowing,* caused Mount Sinai to quake and thunder,* brought kings to their knees,* and even made the sun stand still in the sky.* You did all this, Lord, so that Your people could experience the unending depths of Your majesty.

Father, I pray that Your majesty would shine down on my children, that they might experience the fullness of who You are. Each time they look up into the night sky, Lord, let them be awestruck knowing that You stretched out the curtains of Heaven.* As they stand on the beach, with the surf tickling their toes, let amazement overcome them as they realize that it is You who bars the gates of the shore, and it is You who tells the ocean, *“This far and no farther will you come. Here your proud waves must stop!”** And as they gaze at magnificent snow-capped mountains, may they stand in wonder as they contemplate the power You have to shatter peaks and level hills.* Awesome God, let the fullness of Your majesty permeate every part of their hearts, minds, and souls.

Exodus 6:7; Exodus 14:21-22; Joshua 6:20; Joshua 3:14-16; Exodus 19:16; Joshua 2:9-11; Joshua 10:13; Psalm 104:2; Job 38:10-11; Habakkuk 3:6

MY PRAYER SPACE

SURRENDER

Lord, I need You to constantly remind me that life is not measured by how much I own.* No, it is not measured by the temporary stuff of this world, nor by those things that give only transient pleasure while offering no long-term blessings. Life is measured by something else entirely. It is measured by how much of my life (time, talent, money, effort) is invested in Christ. I know that Satan would love for me to keep measuring life by things. He wants me to refuse surrendering the things of the world and to hold onto my temporary pleasures.* Don't let him win, Jesus.

Savior, You love us so much that You died to have a relationship with us. You settled for nothing less than to give Your all in total sacrifice. In response, You will settle for nothing less than complete surrender and whole-hearted devotion from us.* May my family and I deny ourselves, pick up our cross, and follow You.* Strengthen us to relinquish control of our lives into Your hands. Empower us to abandon self in pursuit of Your will. Invigorate us to renounce this world and proclaim Your kingdom. Quicken our hearts that we would fall to our knees, wave the white flag, and surrender all.

Luke 12:15; Mark 10:17-31; Titus 2:12-14; Mark 8:34

MY PRAYER SPACE

MORE OF CHRIST

Jesus, I pray that my life would be marked by seeking more of You. I know the answer to more fulfillment, deeper satisfaction, and enduring purpose is not found in things, no matter how many of those things I may happen to have. No, Lord, the answer is found in You.* I don't want to continually come up empty when I can be filled with more of You. I don't want my life to be diffused when I can be infused with Your purpose. I don't want my life to be ordinary and mundane when I can do all things through You who gives me strength.* And I don't want to simply flow along with the mass of humanity when I can swim in the vast ocean of God's grace, the Spirit's infilling, and Your love.

Let my children see this in me, Lord. Let them understand, by watching my life, that when people seek more of You, then You make more of them. May my children always seek more of You. May they never settle for less than knowing and loving You with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength.* Every day, may they crawl into the lap of our Heavenly Father and cry out, "Lord, give me more of Your Son. Fill me with more of Christ. Begin to use me to do more than I ever thought possible!"

Haggai 1:3-11; Philippians 4:13; Mark 12:30

MY PRAYER SPACE

EPILOGUE

The life of a praying parent doesn't end until we draw our last breath. So parents, settle in for the long haul. Yes, it will be an extended trip, but there is no better journey. Stay strong. Stay true, and fulfill your calling as a parent. Your children, grandchildren, and beyond will all be better for it!

I hope and pray this book has been a blessing to you. If God has used this book in any way to bless your family, please do me the great favor of leaving a review on Amazon. Your positive review might encourage another to take the same journey!

GOD BLESS!

APPENDIX

1. John Wesley's Covenant Prayer (Contemporized)
2. <https://www.gotquestions.org/body-temple-Holy-Spirit.html>
3. Frederick Lehman, The Love of God, 1917
4. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-attitude.html>

INDEX OF PRAYERS

MATURITY (4)	SELFLESSNESS (6)
INTEGRITY (8)	HUMILITY (10)
PEACE (12)	VICTORY (14)
HOPE (16)	STRENGTH (18)
JOY (20)	GENTLENESS (22)
PURITY (24)	SELF-CONTROL (26)
FAITHFULNESS (28)	LOVE (30)
PATIENCE (32)	KINDNESS (34)
SERVANTHOOD (36)	MIND OF CHRIST (38)
SALVATION (40)	BLESSED (42)
NEW CREATION (44)	HEIR/CHILD OF GOD (46)
MASTERPEICE (50)	FUTURE SPOUSE (52)
HOLINESS (54)	IN CHRIST (60)
FORGIVENESS (62)	PURPOSE (64)
SPIRITUAL POWER (66)	TRUST (68)
HARD WORKER (72)	WITNESS (78)
IN SUFFERING (84)	LOVING OTHERS (88)
ATTITUDE (90)	PROVISION (92)
NEVER ALONE (94)	BEING SATISFIED IN GOD (96)
SURRENDER (100)	MORE OF CHRIST (102)
PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST (48)	
EXPERIENCING GOD'S GLORY (56)	
LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY (58)	
BEING SALT AND LIGHT (70)	
TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (74)	
GRASPING THE LOVE OF GOD (76)	
DEALING WITH HABITUAL SIN (80)	
PURSUE RIGHTEOUSNESS (82)	
PROTECTION FROM SATAN (86)	
EXPERIENCING GOD'S MAJESTY (98)	

