

TWELVE

PRAYERS

FOR

PARENTS

SARAH BLOUNT

01 A PRAYER FOR WISDOM

Lord, I ask You to help me remember what Paul said in Philippians 3:8, that everything else is worthless when compared to the infinite value of knowing Christ. I want to know You better, and I want to help my kids know You better. **Give me wisdom and lead me by Your Spirit as I look for ways to create consistent, positive interactions between You and my children. I choose not to retreat.** I will advance and be a parent who is taking ground for the kingdom of God. It is my heart's desire to raise children who follow You. Help me not to get caught up in creating perfect scenarios for my children but to focus on stewarding their hearts so that no matter what situations they find themselves in, they will not walk in darkness. I am thoroughly convinced that John 1:5 is true: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

In Jesus' name, amen.

02 A PRAYER FOR BOLDNESS

Lord, may I be the flame that lights the torches of my children. Help me to leave behind an incredible legacy of leaders. Enable me to think like Jochebed. **Help me to make faith-based decisions instead of letting fear author the story for our family.** Please show me how to take advantage of every opportunity I have to help my children taste and see that You are good. I pray that every seed I plant in their hearts will produce a harvest. **I pray that the time they spend under my roof will help them form the right belief systems.** As I step out in faith, I know You will follow with Your favor. I ask You, Lord, to give my children a heart toward the things of God. Help me to see purpose in them and pull greatness out of them. Thank You, Lord, for choosing me to be their parent.

In Jesus' name, amen.

03 A PRAYER FOR POWER, LOVE, AND A SOUND MIND

Lord, I thank You that You have given me not a spirit of fear but a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind. Help my spirit to be aware of these amazing gifts so I can tap into them every day. **When I feel weak and weary in well doing, I will call upon Your power.** I remember that the Greater One lives in both me and my kids. I am full of courage and fortitude. I will not back down when the pressure of raising kids seems overwhelming. Oh, Lord of heaven's armies, I am inclined to boldly stand my ground and fight for my kids in Your name. I will love my children as I love myself. Help me to be like You, Jesus. Help the words I speak to be full of spirit and life. Help me to remember that my flesh accomplishes nothing. **I will be a parent who is led by the Holy Spirit and who reminds my children of who they are in Christ.** I will not avoid discipline, because I know that isn't love, but I will discipline as You discipline me. **I am in possession of a well-balanced, calm, sensible, sound, and sober mind.** I will be like Abigail— I will know how to respond in high-pressure situations. I will have the right words to say. I will be a vessel that helps my children stay on the path You have for them. I have good judgement, and my children will thank me for preserving the purposes and plans God has for them.

In Jesus' name, amen.

04 A PRAYER FOR TRUST

Father, thank You for showing me how to lean. May the words Paul used to describe the church of Colossae be words that my family and friends use to describe me. **Help me to lean not on my own power, wisdom, and goodness but to confidently lean on Your power, wisdom, and goodness. You are enough.** You are an immovable rock, and when things don't make sense, I choose to lean on You. Help me to be a Spirit-led parent. **I ask You, Holy Spirit, to help me see opportunities to connect my children to Your Word and Your voice.** Help me to steward well every opportunity You place in front of me. Lord, I commit to raise children whose faith in You is real, tested, and unshakable.

In Jesus' name, amen.

05 A PRAYER FOR AWAKENING

Lord, I thank You for my children. They are not burdens. They are gifts—perfect gifts from You. Help me to see them as You see them. **When I feel inconvenienced, come and remind me of how blessed I am to be a parent.** Forgive me for being ungrateful. Lord, thank You for showing me that my children are triune beings and that I have a responsibility to nurture and train their minds, bodies, and spirits. Help me to sharpen the minds of my children by renewing them with God's Word. **May discipleship be natural and organic in our home.** May You be the center of our focus and a frequent part of our conversations. We will weave You into everything. Lord, help me to mark out a straight path so that my children will be strong. Our bodies are Your temple, and we will see them as such. Our eyes, ears, mouth, hands, and feet will bring You glory. **Awaken us daily to Your Spirit, which is alive in us.** Help us to be aware and to be led by Your Spirit in all things.

In Jesus' name, amen.

06 A PRAYER FOR GOD'S STRENGTH

Lord, I want to see myself the way You see me. I am a warrior parent. I am a hunter, a soldier, a champion, a giant, a mighty parent, and a mighty hero. I know You have called me to go in the power of Your might. If I am going to raise children who make an impact in this world, I know I have to be wholly dependent on Your strength. **Help me to rise up and boldly release the arrows You have placed in my hand. Help me to set my sights on what You have for my children.** Instill in me everything I need to raise children who know their purpose and are confidently walking in it. Lord, forgive me for being selfish. I will no longer live trying to impress others. **I commit myself to taking an interest in my children.** I ask You for opportunities to engage in meaningful conversation with them. Keep me focused on what's important. Steady my aim. In Jesus' name, amen.

07 A PRAYER FOR MY PURPOSE

Lord, thank You for reminding me of how special I am to You—not because I have done anything sensational but because Jesus did something sensational. I am special because I am a child of God. My children are special because they are children of God. Thank You for choosing us. **You have special assignments for us—not so that we can hopefully become special someday, but because You have already made us special.** Help me to fulfill my purpose. Help me to be the salt of the earth. Help me to intensify God-flavors and diminish flavors that are not agreeable to Your Word. Help me to see myself as a preserving agent—someone who is called to make sure Your way of doing things does not pass away. I want people to line up and say they have tasted and seen that God is good through my life. **I pray that as I commit to being the salt of the earth, my children will imitate me, and we will begin to walk on mission together!**

In Jesus' name, amen.

08 A PRAYER FOR INFLUENCE

Lord, I pray that You will help me to celebrate my children's unique personalities. Help me to explain to them their role in society clearly. **My children are the light of the world.** I will affirm who they are in Christ. I will teach them to be entirely dependent on God. I will remind them that they are set apart. I will not hide them under a basket or a bushel. I trust what Your Word says: darkness cannot extinguish the light. The light of my children's lives is Jesus, and that light cannot be extinguished. Use my children to help people who are lost find their way home. Help my children to be in the world but not of it. Give them a heart for those in the darkness who are open to the gospel, sorry for their sins, and on their way to putting their faith in Jesus. **May my children reflect the light of Jesus as the moon reflects the light of the sun.** May our family be like a city on a hill that cannot be hidden.

In Jesus' name, amen.

09 A PRAYER FOR INTENTIONALITY

Lord, help me aim my children toward loving You with all their heart, soul, and mind. I know I can't force them to love You, but I also know I can help them notice You, experience You, and can draw them to You by modeling Your love. Help us to guard our hearts. You and You alone belong on the throne of my heart. I choose to rely on You and You alone. I will cling to You and You alone. I will run from idolatry. **Help me to recognize the things in my children that are second best—the things that are vying for the throne of their hearts.** We will be a family that worships You more than once a week. May our home be filled with thanksgiving and praise. Help us to lead the way in this. I want to spend every day in Your courts. **I want more of You, and I know where to find it—at Your feet, in Your courts.** I will worship You with obedience. I will motivate my children to obey because they love You. Thank You, Lord, for thinking of everything. You hold the answers to all my questions. I love You. In Jesus' name, amen.

10 A PRAYER FOR LOVE

Lord, help me to model I Corinthians 13 love for my children. **I want love to be the beautiful prize for which I run.** Help me to be patient. Holy Spirit, I give You permission to speak to me and show me when I am being snappy and need to stretch down, up, and out. I ask You for a spirit of kindness to be present in our home. Show me how to adapt to others. Rid me of harshness. Holy Spirit, help me not to be demanding. I want nothing to do with jealousy, so I will choose to be thankful for what I have. I will be content and quit wishing for what others have. As I seek You, keep my motives pure. Make me aware when I am parading and boasting. I am fulfilled by You, not by the praise and affirmation of others. I choose this day to throw out all my internal scoreboards. I desire not to keep records of wrongs, and I trust You with every corner of my heart. Help me to be a person who doesn't give up on others, doesn't lose faith in people, is hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. **I refuse to be a clanging cymbal—I will love others as Christ has loved me.** In Jesus' name, amen.

11 A PRAYER FOR REVELATION

Lord, here I am with my children, living messages. We are signs, symbols, proof, reminders, and object lessons that point people to Jesus. Thank You for standing with me. Thank You for reminding me how crucial it is to be a doer of the Word. **Lord, give me Spirit-led ideas and help me provide unforgettable, hands-on learning experiences for my children.** May all the biblical head knowledge they gain find a place in their hearts as they live it out. Give me wisdom and special insight as I choose to ride in the passenger seat and train my children to be salt, light, and love. In Jesus' name, amen.

12 A PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord, help me to remember that my born-again children belong to You! Every promise in Scripture applies to them. I desire to continually set them in Your midst—to make a way for them to come to You. **Thank You for opening my eyes to see that my children are not too young to know You and have a real relationship with You.** Right now, I commit to start agreeing with God's Word and stop agreeing with any fears I have about losing my children to the world. **I believe that the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead is alive in my children.** Help me to teach them to rely on the Holy Spirit. May they see me reliant upon You. May they see me hunger and thirst for You and You alone. I want to say to my children with confidence, "Pattern yourselves after me." **Thank You, God, for giving me everything I need to be a fearless parent.** I take up the mantle of Jochebed in Jesus' name. Amen.

