

# *Prayers for our Children*



*Nina Snyman*

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By Nina Snyman

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## Introduction

*1 Corinthians 8:6 – But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.*

God has graciously brought back to us the knowledge of the Father and the Son, which is referred to as the Divine Pattern; and is showing us what is agape love (which is completely emptied of all self-seeking) versus eros love (which is always self-seeking).

I, as a parent of adult children, did not have this knowledge when I raised my children. I did not educate them with the principles of the divine pattern of life (See the booklet *Divine Pattern of Life*, by Adrian Ebens, available for free on [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info)). I did what I could with the light that I had at each stage of my life. Learning about the divine pattern opened up a whole new world of new concepts. The biggest lesson for myself is that I, the parent, determine in what manner the blessings from my heavenly Father is bestowed onto my children. That does not place me in a position of power, but rather in a place where I need a divine character, so that I can portray the characteristics of Jesus Christ to my children.

I am now willing to ask forgiveness (from God and from my family) and to grow along with them into these truths, growing away from previous beliefs. Along this path I identified one by one the pillars of wrong doctrines imprinted on my soul: self-seeking prayers, manipulative prayers, judgmental prayers, some of which were graciously answered by God. I suppose that some of my prayers were granted in God's wrath, where He in pity and sorrow gave me what I asked, because He knew I would have put myself through an emotional turmoil if these prayers went unanswered.

I now understand more about the high calling of a life to serve others, as I have learned more about the true meaning of the cross of Christ and a better understanding of the merits of His blood. My heart was also opened to understand more about the importance of the complete rest during Sabbath hours and the divine expectations of the commandments of God. His laws are not arbitrary, it is not imposed on us, but his laws are natural laws, which confer blessings when obeyed by understanding the principles.

Most of all I started to see a glimpse of the blessing structure built into the relationship between our heavenly Father and His Son: thankfulness and praise to the great Giver unlocks the streams of blessings from heaven.

In the many Bible verses quoted in these prayers, I try to imitate 'n conversation with our heavenly Father, because He answers our requests and concerns with many promises from His Word. In my personal prayers I often make use of Scripture by changing it into a request, to confirm my dependence on God and to prompt my heart towards believing His promises.

*Grace and peace be multiplied to you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, according as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who has called us to glory and virtue, through which He has given to us **exceedingly great and precious promises**, so that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. - 2 Peter 1:2-4.*

I thank the Lord for His provision, grace and blessings. I ask you to join with me as we bring our children to our heavenly Father in the Name of Jesus Christ, in the same way that the mothers brought their children to Jesus during his earthly ministry for Him to lay His hands on them.

*Nina*

*"...I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." – Ephesians 3:14 - 19*

## 1. Learning to become a parent within the Divine Pattern of Life

*“Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.” (Psalms 139:23-24).*

I believe that within a relationship there is no perfection, this includes perfection in parenthood. However, there are positive consequences to good actions, and negative consequences to bad actions (Ps.34:21,22).

We as parents often see our own good and bad characteristics mirrored back to us by our children, especially the younger ones. From own experience I learnt that many of our ways of walking and talking are unbeknown to us transferred to our children by them observing our silent examples. Let us take up the positives we can hand down to our children: we can lead our children to the feet of Jesus, where they can join us to find the fountain of life and blessings.

*For with You is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. ~ Ps. 36:9*

We stand in need of godly wisdom and a divine character, so that God is able to make Himself know to our children through us as parents. Let us grasp the hand of our heavenly Father to tap from Him a character to lead our children in His everlasting ways.

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to You in the Name of Jesus Christ, bringing myself as a parent before You. I do not have what it takes to raise this child to become a responsible member of Your heavenly Kingdom. “I am like a broken vessel.” (Ps. 31:12; 2 Cor.4:7). You have shown me the divine pattern of the Godhead: You as a heavenly Father and Your dear begotten Son. I stand in need of the Spirit of Christ in me to raise this child for Your glory. I thank you for the huge blessing I received from you – this child.

As You lead me in the everlasting way, give me the character and strength to lead this child in the same way. I recognize my need to teach this child about the life that You are constantly giving us. My heart’s desire is that my child

knows You, heavenly Father. Your word says “no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” (Matt.11:27). Lord Jesus, I ask that You reveal Yourself through me to this child. Father, I know You have placed me within a position to bless this child. Thank you for the blessing of giving me this child, even at times when my sins have turned Your blessing into a burden. I lay my burdens of child-rearing at Your feet, because this burden can weary me. Jesus, help me to take Your yoke upon me and learn of Your gentleness and humbleness. I thank You for the rest that You promise me in this matter, that I may find it easy and light. (Matt.11:18-30). I pray I may count all these things as a joy. (James 1:2)

Help me on a daily basis to see the difference between teaching that re-enforces and teaching that guide. Thank you for Your leading in my life, from which I can copy to lead my child in a Christlike manner, through example of service, long-suffering and gentleness. Thank you for giving me the divine balance between over-protection and being there for my child’s needs. As this child steps through the different phases of life, give me wisdom and understanding, to be considerate and respectful of my child. Thank you that You will teach this child how to cleanse himself/herself from sin, so that he/she “shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.” (2 Tim2:21).

I pray this in the Name of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: Divine Pattern of Life, by Adrian Ebens)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: “The Lord bless you and keep you; make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.” ’ “So they shall put My name [character] on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.”*  
– Numbers 6:23-27. [word in bracket inserted]

*And I will bless those that bless you ... And in you shall all families of the earth be blessed. – Genesis 12:3.*

## 2. Faith in God

*“No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.” (Joh.1:18)*

We want our children to know God intimately, as their faith grows in Him. There is nowhere in the Bible a place where the plan of salvation is laid out in “bullet point format.” I believe that God walks a unique walk with every individual according to their needs. Let us trust in the gracious care of our heavenly Father as we walk this walk with our children to bring them to touch the garment of Jesus.

Dear Heavenly Father,

I pray that You will teach my child about who You are, about Your plan of salvation from sins and how atonement works. May he/she “know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent.” (Joh.17:4). Help him/her recognize that inexpressible longing for something better; purity, joy, peace and Your rest, which the world cannot satisfy, that it is Your voice, calling him/her from the broken cisterns of this world where the source of blessings runs out (SC 28; Jer.2:13).

Guide my thoughts and the intents of my heart as I explain to him/her the wonderful plan of salvation. Lord Jesus, I ask You to reveal the Father more fully to myself that my child may see You through me, with a heart experience that changes both our characters to be in harmony with You.

Help my child to recognize his/her own sins at an early stage of life. Help him/her to see that “there is none righteous, no, not one” (Rom.3:10); that the “wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Rom.6:23.) Help him/her to understand that sin is the cause of death, not You. I pray that his/her repentance will not just be a fear that the wrongdoings will bring suffering upon him/her, but that his/her experience will also bring the heart-breaking grief in his soul, that he had betrayed the spotless Son of God. I ask, according to Your promise, to grant me and my child the gift of repentance and forgiveness of sins (Acts 5:31).

I pray that he/she will not reject the mercy of God, for any reason. I also pray that he/she will not receive the grace of God in vain (2 Cor.6:1,2) I pray



that he/she will not put off the work of repentance and salvation unnecessarily. Help my child to grow faith in You as he/she trusts You for small things, as well as larger things, according to the faith in him/her.

I ask You for a large measure of patience in myself as my child goes through the process of sinning, being weighed down with the sense of guilt and feeling cut off from You, as You and I plead for him/her to return to the Father's house with thorough confession of sin and finding forgiveness and understanding the value and meaning of the cross of Christ.

Thank you that I can trust You to grow my child's faith, which was received from You (Rom.12:3). Thank you that I can trust You for a full work of salvation in my child's life, that he/she will receive a new heart, new desires, purposes and motives, leading a new life, all to Your glory.

I pray this in the Name of Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: Steps to Christ, pages 18, 24, 28)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus ... rise, and stand upon thy feet: ... now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. - Acts 26:15-18.*

*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. - Galatians 2:20.*

*... The just shall live by faith. - Galatians 3:11.*

### **3. Growth in Christ**

It is God who brings the bud to bloom and the flower to fruit. It is by God's power that the seed develops, "first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear." (Mark 4:28). This is also true for spiritual seeds in our children.

Dear heavenly Father

I come to You in the Name of Your Son, my Lord Jesus Christ.

My prayer for my child is that he/she will grow spiritually by the life found in You. Please be his/her "everlasting light," and glory (by forming his/her character – Isaiah 60:19), give him/her "grace and glory." (Psalm 84:11). Be to my child the living water, "the Bread of God . . . which comes down from heaven, and gives life into the world," also to him/her. (John 6:33).

I pray that he/she will learn to consecrate him/herself to God every morning; making this his/her very first work. Let his/her prayer be, "Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Abide with me, and let all my work be wrought in Thee."

I pray that he/she will have a life in Christ which is a life of spiritual restfulness. I pray that he/she will understand the true meaning of entering into the weekly Sabbath rest, including the extensions into the monthly and annual times of rest.

May he/she never feel the need for ecstasy of feeling, but let him/her experience an abiding, peaceful trust in You. Let him/her love You, copy You, depend wholly upon You, so that he/she is transformed into the likeness of Your character.

Lord Jesus, You took human nature upon Yourself, binding Yourself to humanity by a tie of love that can never be broken by any power but the choice of man himself. Please intervene and help discourage my child from choosing to separate him/herself from You.

Lord Jesus, may a sense of Your holy presence abide with my child at all times, like a personal presence, full of love and light. In the name of Your precious Son Jesus, I thank you for these promises. Amen.

(Source: From Steps to Christ, chapter 8, Growing Up Into Christ)

### ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church [and our family] and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." – Ephesians 3:20,21*

*Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer. - Psalms 19:14.*

#### 4. Finding their Identity in Christ

*I will praise You; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are marvelous and my soul knows it very well. - Psalms 139:14.*

*“This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” – Matt. 3:17.*

Above is the words spoke by our heavenly Father to His Son and through these words He wants each of us to take up our identity as sons and daughters of God. Our heavenly Father has made all children fearfully and wonderfully. It is for us as parents to teach them this truth and demonstrate it to them how the heavenly family operates. We can only do this in dependence on God.

Dear heavenly Father

I come to You to ask You for a revelation to my child’s mind that You are the fountain of all life (Ps.36:9), including his/hers, that the very heartbeat that is in his/her breast comes from You. Please help him/her to see that You are the source of all good impulses. Help my child to observe the relational example of the heavenly family, consisting of You, dear Father, and Your precious Son, and I plead that he/she finds his/her place in that family structure.

Place a revelation of Your love, Father, for Your Son Jesus Christ in his/her heart as the love that You have for him/her personally. I cannot enter the secret places of the heart where this connection is made, but You can, through the working of the Spirit of Christ. Help him/her to confirm his/her very identity in these heavenly words: “This is my beloved son in whom I am well-pleased.” May his/her relationship with You be built on love, without unnecessary fears (1 Joh.4:18).

When there are incidents in my child’s life which could make him/her doubt this truth (name any specifics), I ask for Your healing power by the Spirit

of Christ to bring restoration in a meaningful way that builds a sanctified character.

Please prevent any opportunity where he/she would believe that he/she carries life in his/herself, and from placing him/herself independent of other authorities. Please discourage him/her from viewing other people as objects with whom to associate, in order to make self more powerful, enlightened and fulfilled in life. Please help him/her to grow pass the awareness of sins, to pass through servanthood, that he/she becomes “no more a servant, but a son... an heir of God through Christ.” (Gal.4:7).

Thank you that he/she can always look to You and Your Son to find his/her true identity in You. I pray this in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *Identity Wars*, by Adrian Ebens)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*Sons of sons are the crown of old men, and the glory of sons are their fathers. – Proverbs 17:6.*

*...that which we have seen and heard we declare unto you, so that you also may have fellowship with us... with the Father and with His Son... - 1 John 1:3.*

*Judge me, O Jehovah; for I have walked in my truthfulness. I have trusted also in Jehovah; I shall not slide. Examine me, O Jehovah, and prove me; purify my heart and my mind. For Your loving-kindness is before my eyes; and I have walked in Your truth. - Psalms 26:1-3.*

## **5. Understanding the Divine Pattern of Life**

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, shows us the perfect example of wisdom (1 Cor.1:24), of fellowship with the Father (1 Joh.1:3), of submission to the Father (Joh.5:19), of receiving blessings (John 5:20) which are returned in gratitude towards the Father (John 11:41). We need our children to see this principle of gratitude towards God, the source of all blessings.

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to You in the Name of Your Son, my Lord Jesus Christ, about one of the most important life choices that my child will make. I ask that Your will be done.

I pray that my child will understand the heavenly example and grow in the wisdom that he/she receives everything from You, that he/she will understand the blessing of submission to authority, even to me as the parent and to react on these blessings with thankfulness for blessings received. I realize that I am in his/her channel of blessing, and have the opportunity to demonstrate these holy and pure principles of submission and thankfulness. I humbly ask Your forgiveness for my own (and my child's) stubbornness, ungratefulness, and rebellion demonstrated in the past, and I thank You as we receive Your forgiveness as You have promised. I ask Your Spirit to transform us in this regard, to draw us with Your love and Your blessings. I make the choice to demonstrate a spirit of thankfulness in our home for all things.

Show him/her how to occupy a divine position of submission and humility towards You, heavenly Father, towards the Son of God and towards his/her parents (me) and other authorities in life. Keep him/her from seeking self-exultation to be equal with God, and help him/her to identify this wrong notion at its earliest onset. Open my eyes to see these wrong notions and help me to guide him/her in the everlasting ways of blessings and thankfulness.

I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hid these things from the wise and prudent, and has revealed them unto babes, (which includes my child) because it seemed good in Your sight. (Matt.11:25,26). I also desire these things for my child, and I humbly ask that You grant us these promises according to Your Word, in the Name of Your Son, my Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *Divine Pattern of Life*, by Adrian Ebens)

### ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts, and see if any wicked way is in me; and lead me in the way everlasting.*

*- Psalms 139:23-24.*

*So says the LORD, Do not let the wise glory in his wisdom, nor let the mighty glory in his might; do not let the rich glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD, doing kindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth; for in these I delight, says the LORD. - Jeremiah 9:23-24.*

## 6. Character development

We want our children to grow towards the heavenly example that Jesus gave us during his earthly ministry. We can demonstrate that example of Christ to our children. Thus, we need to lay our own character development before our heavenly Father for Him to perfect us by His Spirit. We can also show our children how we deal with character deficiencies, by taking the matters to the Lord in prayer, by finding forgiveness for these mistakes, laying it in the dust and leaving it behind to walk with eyes firmly on the Captain of our Salvation (Hebrews 2:9-10).

Dear heavenly Father,

Thank you that Your plan of salvation includes complete healing, restoration and continuous growth in the Spirit of Christ. Thank you that You are willing to bestow on us Your Spirit which builds into his/her character the fruit of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. (Gal.5:22,23).

Help me to see my own responsibility, to build my character by the directions given in Scriptures, to spend time with You, feeding upon Your Word and respond accordingly. I know I influence my child every day whenever I'm in contact with him/her. I sometimes see my own bad characteristics mirrored to me in his/her actions. Please forgive my (name specific bad characteristics). I put my trust in You to help me overcome these traits that only bring reproach upon Your Name. I need complete and total victory, so that I can be a witness to my child of 'over-coming' all things through Your grace and power.

I ask Your forgiveness for believing You are a father who loses his temper and harms us when we are convicted of sin, bringing fear and condemnation.

Help me and my child to view You in the light of the fruits of the Spirit of Christ, and mold our characters according to the love, patience and mercy that You demonstrate to all sinners.

I pray that our family will weed out all fretfulness, uncourteousness, roughness, sharp speech, and rather grow towards being a blessing, a comfort and strength, to support each other in the home, as the peace of Christ reigns in our hearts. I pray that gentle manners, cheerful conversation and loving acts will bind the heart of my child to me as the parent by the silken chords of affection.

Help me to grow love in our home as a tender plant, help me to cultivate and cherish it, grant me wisdom to pluck out the roots of bitterness in order for love to have room to flourish, and then it will bring under its influence all the powers of the mind and the heart, in order to love You supremely and our neighbors as ourselves. I confess my total dependence on the strength of character of the Spirit of Christ. (Our High Calling, 173.)

Let Your will be done. I ask this in the Name of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Sources: *Mind Character and Personality*, Vol.1 p.176; *Our High Calling*, page 173)

### ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*I have been crucified with Christ, and I live; yet no longer I, but Christ lives in me. And that life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith toward the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself on my behalf. - Galatians 2:20.*

## **7. Emotional Development**

God created each of us individually with capabilities to reason and feel emotions, where these two should operate together: the brain's reasoning capacities should feed emotions for healthy positive emotional balance. (See the booklet *Divine Pattern of Life*, on [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info).) We want our children to understand how the thinking capacities blesses and authorizes the

emotions, so that they can learn to respond when emotional imbalances arise. The world has turned this principle upside down, educating us contrary to God's principles, where the emotions dictate to the thoughts. Reversing these to proper balances is only possible through the Spirit of our heavenly Father through His Son, Christ.

When I initially learnt about these emotion/thinking balances, I realized there is a lot of space for growth in both myself and my children's behavior.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for blessing us with the gift of emotions, as an expression of our thoughts.

Please forgive my past mistakes, where I have joined hands with the world on this matter, setting the wrong example. Thank you, Father, that You have not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (2Tim.1:7).

I pray that my child will be enabled by the Spirit of Christ to identify unnecessary fear. If there is real danger, help him/her to run to You for comfort.

If he/she experience guilt, grieve, worry and anxiety, over-study, pain, anger, envy arousing hatred and revenge, I pray that he/she will see the roots of these sins within himself/herself, and plead forgiveness. Help him/her to find faith and wisdom in our Lord Jesus Christ, to apply the principles of Your law in seeking solutions.

May my child – by Your Spirit – recognize the promptings of sin, for the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit; but the Spirit strives against the flesh (Gal.5:17), which keeps up a constant warfare. Here is where I stand in need of Your help, Lord Jesus. I pray that my child's human weakness becomes united to divine strength, and by faith he/she can exclaim, "Thanks be to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1Cor.15:57).

I pray that my child will desire to overcome the human weakness of nourishing negative emotions. Help him/her to understand the negative harvest of even more negative emotions, resulting in sinful acts (Ps.106:15). In case of incidents involving negative emotions, I pray in advance that You will



grant me the wisdom and divine love to deal with the situation. Help us to know and believe in the power of Your healing love.

I pray that You will set him/her free from any feelings of worthlessness through a revelation that he/she is accepted by You, our heavenly Father. (Rom 5:8).

Make the different aspects of “the fear of the Lord” clear to his/her mind and heart. Grant him/her the blessing of finding freedom, love, acceptance and rest within submission and obedience to You. I pray this in the Name of Your Son, my Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *Mind Character and Personality*, Vol.2, page 516-519; *Divine Pattern of Life*, by Adrian Ebens)

## Great and precious promises given to us

*I Jehovah search the heart, I try the reins, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings. - Jeremiah 17:10.*

*Give joy to the soul of Your servant; for to You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. - Psalms 86:4.*

*O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and I will give praise, even with my glory. - Psalms 108:1.*

*As a father pities his children, Jehovah pities those who fear Him. - Psalms 103:13.*

## 8. Talents and Capabilities

Overseeing the developing of talents in my children was a real challenge to me, because I could identify some hidden talents in them since their baby days, talents that I did not carry in myself. As a young parent, I possibly based these developments of talents on good performances, which can possibly lead to works-based faith. I wanted these talents to be used in God’s kingdom. I did

not want my children's talents to be misused in the kingdom of Satan, because that could lead to emotional scars. I committed their talents to the Lord.

Dear heavenly Father,

I come to You in the Name of my Lord Jesus Christ. Help my child to see You as the great source of all life, goodness and talents. Thank you that You have made him/her fearfully and marvelously: reveal to him/her that *Your works* are marvellous (Ps.139:14).

Help my child to see the purpose and call that You have placed on him/her, in order to rightly use the talents that You have given him/her. Help my child to build a character (based on mercy) which forms a firm foundation of all abilities and talents. (Ps.62:11, 12). I pray that You fill him/her with Your Spirit, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to fulfill the calling that You have on his/her life (Ex.31:3; Jer.9:23-24). Help him/her to reject the world's pressure to perform and increase in capabilities.

Help him/her to develop talents within the emotional cycle of the Kingdom of God: During times of success, direct him/her to praise You with gratitude and trust in You; during times of failure, give contentment and encourage him/her to stay focused, in order to give gratitude back to God when success eventually comes. (See the book *Identity Wars*, p.48, available on [fatheroflove.info](http://fatheroflove.info)).

I pray for him/her to receive the eye-salve in order to learn the valuable lessons during times of failures. May there always be a heart filled with gratefulness for those challenging phases of life, that there will be forgiveness and empathy, hope and faith developed in those times, never condemning himself/herself, or wanting to point out someone else as the scapegoat for the failure.

Heavenly Father, help my child to understand his/her worth, which lies in a relationship with You, and not in capabilities. Help him/her to never compare him-/herself with others in order to find value. Plant him/her firm within the truth that he/she is always lovingly accepted by me and by You, our heavenly Father. Help me to communicate my complete love and acceptance of my child to him/her in an effective way.

Help me and my child to identify his/her talents at an early stage in life, in order that he/she will not spend a lifetime aimlessly wandering for their life's purpose and calling.

May Your will be done. Amen.

(Source: *Identity Wars*, by Adrian Ebens, Chapter 8 – Comparing the Two Kingdoms)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all workmanship. – Exo.31:3.*

*So says Jehovah, Do not let the wise glory in his wisdom, nor let the mighty glory in his might; do not let the rich glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am Jehovah, doing kindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth; for in these I delight, says Jehovah. - Jeremiah 9:23-24.*

*God has spoken once; twice I have heard this, that power belongs to God. Also to You, O Jehovah, belongs mercy; for You give to every man according to his work. - Psalms 62:11-12.*

### **9. Learning to pray**

As a young mother, my most earnest prayer was that my children learn how to pray. I started from as early as one year of age to read to them a Bible story from the children's Bible and pray a short prayer. As soon as they could talk, they imitated my prayers. Too late I realized the impact of my simple example prayers of those early years. Had I prayed "better" prayers, including more of the day's details into the prayers, they would have learnt earlier on to take the day's events to the Lord in prayer.

God have created our child is to have a close relationship with Him and to reflect the glory of His character in this dark world. (Matt.5:48). Let us trust God to perfect His character in our children, as they learn to pray.

Dear heavenly Father,

I come to You in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. I ask that prayer in our house will not just be a routine set of requests, but that my child will grow into a relationship with You. Assist my efforts to show him/her how to open the heart to God and not just ask for things. May my child understand the principle of “Ask and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you” (Matt.7:7).

Keep him/her from impersonal and selfish prayers.

Teach me and my child the importance of forgiving others and receiving forgiveness from You, Father, in order to have our prayers answered (Matt.6:14-15). Reveal Your full forgiveness to this child through your gentle, loving Spirit and may your ‘agape’ love be magnified on my lips (the parent) as my child’s immediate channel of blessing. Help him/her to understand that You never turn from us, but that our sins bring the separation, and that the solution lies in us accepting Your forgiveness of our sins. (Isaiah 59:2).

Father, grow the faith that You have placed in him/her, because they that “come to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” (Hebrews 11:6). When he/she does not receive the things asked for, bring growth of faith in order to build a trust in You. Help him/her to see that our heavenly Father answers our prayers in love by giving us that which will be for our highest good – that which we ourselves would desire if, with vision divinely enlightened, we could see all things as they really are. Bring to his/her mind the remembrance that You withhold no good thing from those who walk uprightly.

Teach him/her to pray in the mind and spirit of Jesus, while he/she believes in Your promises, relying upon Your grace, and work the works of Christ. May his/her soul ascend nearer to heaven on the wings of praise to You. Amen.

(Source: *Steps to Christ*, Chapter 11, The Privilege of Prayer; *Signs of the Times*, June 1, 1892).

### ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*Likewise the Spirit also helps our infirmities. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes*

*intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. - Romans 8:26.*

*Therefore, I desire that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. - 1 Timothy 2:8.*

*But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, eagerly awaiting the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to everlasting life. - Jude 1:20-21.*

## 10. Reading the Word of God

In my own mind it is a clear matter that children should learn to read for one main reason: to read the Word of God and learn of God. During the Protestant Reformation, many schools were opened to educate boys (and girls as well) where the Word of God was used to teach children to read. However, the Word of God was replaced in many Protestant countries by a plethora of children's books. I screened every bit of information that came home from my children's school, and found many reasons to object against the information in the books. To counteract these ungodly influences, I bought many children's Bibles and set them up along with the other children's books on the shelf in their room. In that way the children were exposed to the Word of God while playing and reading during the day, and not only during morning and evening worship sessions. Not one of our children's Bibles used in our home survived the ordeal of children at play, but the Word of God was hid in their hearts, and all three of them cherish a love of the Word of God, even through their teenage years and as young adults.

The Word of God is not only designed for the knowledgeable Bible scholars, but also for the common people like me and my child. Let us trust God to give them a positive experience as they learn to page through our heavenly Father's Word to us as humans.

Dear heavenly Father,

Thank you so much for the revelation of Your character in the written Scriptures. I come to ask for understanding and wisdom within me and for my child as he/she learns to read, and I pray that he/she would find joy in reading Your Word. May the Spirit of Christ open the pages unto his/her mind to find eternal life and the revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ in its pages. (Joh.5:39).

If at all possible, I ask you to give him/her not only a love of reading the Word but also for memorizing scriptures. Help him/her to internalize and manifest the truths and promises found in Your Word. May the reading of the Word bring spiritual strength, clarity of thought and firm conviction of right action. I pray this would be accompanied by fervent and intelligent prayers, to mix the reading with faith and love.

As he/she grows up, I ask You to help him/her not to take the testimony of any man as to what the Scriptures teach, but let him/her study Your words for him/herself.

Help my child to solve contradictions he/she discovers in the Bible with diligent study using scriptural methods. Help my child to remember that the reading of the Word acts as a mirror to the soul, and that Jesus is the perfect example in all things.

I pray that the time that he/she spends in the reading of Your word, would develop in him/her a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose. Help him/her to study each passage to find its relation to the plan of salvation. When my child grows big enough to search the Scriptures, teach him/her to do careful research and prayerful reflection, so that he/she finds streams flowing from the fountain of life. Ps.36:9.

I ask this in the Name of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen

(Source: *Steps to Christ*, Chapter 10, A Knowledge of God. See also: *How Do You Read*, by Daniel Bernhardt)

## ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*“The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”  
John 6:63.*

*Your Word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path. - Psalms 119:105.*

*I have hidden Your Word in my heart, so that I might not sin against You. - Psalms 119:11.*

*But we all, with our face having been unveiled, having beheld the glory of the Lord as in a mirror, are being changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Lord Spirit. - 2 Corinthians 3:18.*

*The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death. - Proverbs 13:14.*

## **11. Physical development and health**

We all want our children to have good health and develop the way God intended them to grow. Many children develop health issues when growing up, partly because of the modern lifestyle.

There is a growing amount of eating disorders among the general population. A mother's heart's desire is to steer her family meals around these issues, so she stands in need God's wisdom to turn every meal into a small feast!

When my children were smaller and full of energy, I used to encourage a time of outdoor playing before the evening's bath time, which were immediately followed by the evening (main) meal. I then had little bowls of fresh salad ready for them to start their meal at their own leisure. The main dishes had to wait until everyone is at the table for a prayer, so all could eat together. In this way the dreaded fresh salads went down without too many complaints.

We are all sinners. Our sins are the original cause of disease that are often channeled to children by the parents, including myself. We need to be wise when it comes to changes in our lifestyle for the sake of a healthy environment for our children.

Dear heavenly Father,

Help my child to see that he/she cannot (and neither can I), by any anxiety or power of his/her own, add to his/her stature, or secure physical growth. Thank you that he/she grows by receiving from the surroundings that which ministers to life – air, sunshine, and food. Lord Jesus, I ask you to be these gifts to him/her when my child trusts in You. Help me to build proper surroundings in the home which can supply these gifts from You.

Help him/her to discern what his/her body needs in terms of food, water, exercise in fresh air along with sunlight exposure, and rest; help me to make the right choices to provide him/her with the right foundation so that these things will become part of his/her lifestyle. I pray that he/she will have a positive association with healthy food and find it easy to eat the right foods. Give him/her a longing to use self-discipline in order to implement a healthy lifestyle.

I ask You to show me where I cherish wrong habits which should be changed to prevent potential diseases. I ask You to show me the source problem in the spiritual realm, so that we can address these from within, making it easy to implement healthy habits, without force. I pray that physical health in my child follows as a natural consequence, a blossom, of a healthy spiritual (and physical) environment.

If my child falls sick, help me to find the right medical help. Give me wisdom about natural remedies and please provide wisdom to the persons helping me in order to diagnose accurately and bring Your healing. I also ask that, should the situation require a complete reliance upon prayer and faith, You would strengthen my faith to look to You without wavering or doubt, (James 1:6) trusting in Your tender mercies (Ps. 136:1)

I ask these in the Name of my Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *Steps to Christ*, Chapter 8, Growth in Christ; *The Ministry of Healing*, page 234, published 1905).

### ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities ... and with His stripes we ourselves are healed. - Isaiah 53:5.*



*Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed, save me, and I shall be saved; for You are my praise. ...You are my hope in the day of evil. - Jeremiah 17:14,17.*

*...and he [Jesus] healed them all. - Matthew 12:15.*

## 12. Good relationships in the family

It was an eye-opener to me to learn that we as humans are made in the image of God, where the relationship between the Father and His Son is echoed in the relationship between husband and wife. In my mind many principles fell into place, as I was looking with new eyes to the humble submission of Christ to His heavenly Father, and the things that His Father bestowed on Him. So often the sins in both myself and my husband mars this image of God that we can portray to our children, and yet the Father is calling us back to this holy position again. Currently we are constantly learning about this relationship within the family circle.

Dear heavenly Father,

I ask for Your Spirit to be ever-present in our home; and that You guide me as parent in my home-making, in order to impart the atmosphere of the heavenly family. I am not capable of doing this in myself, therefore I ask Your forgiveness for my mistakes and thank you for Your full forgiveness and grace. It is only by Your Spirit that there can be strong, stable relationships among our family members.

I ask You to grant my child a good, stable relationship with each of the other household members (name specific names). I ask that You build into my child the necessary faith in You, help me to manifest the virtue of Your character, a knowledge of Christ, to enable him/her to portray temperance and patience towards all the other family members. I pray that loud, harsh complaints, fretfulness and faultfinding will not be part of our home atmosphere. Help my child to settle differences and misunderstandings according to the principles of submission, forgiveness, without condemnation.

Let Your patience, received from Jesus Christ, be revealed by myself and my child, to pour the balm of peace and love into the experiences of our home life. I pray that tender and close unity in our humble family circle will be acknowledged as the result of Your presence in our home. I ask for the grace of godliness in him/her to have a close and intimate connection with heaven. Jesus, I invite You to be not just a guest in our home, but a member of our household, for us to reflect Your image and demonstrate that we are sons and daughters of the Most High.

I ask this in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *Peter's Council to Parents*, a Sermon by Ellen White on 2 Pet.1:5-11, page 15-21, also published in *The Review and Herald*, February, 21, 1888.)

### ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! – Psalms 133:1.*

*In all things having shown yourself a pattern of good works: in the doctrine, purity, sensibleness, without corruption. – Titus 2:7.*

*I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. ... I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set no wicked thing before my eyes. ... A perverse heart will depart from me; I will not know the wicked. – Psalms 101:2-4.*

## **13. True Education**

I homeschooled two of my children for three years. During that time, I realized that learning motivated by fear and force does not go very far. I searched out alternatives to traditional school education, but could not grasp the ideas sourced from outside the world's formal educational system. Learning about the Father and the Son, where the Son is both the wisdom of God and the power of God (1 Cor.1:24) opened my eyes to education that happens from a relationship. Children learn so much easier from someone with

whom they have a good relationship. Let us trust God to provide those opportunities to our children.

Dear heavenly Father,

I come to You in the Name of Jesus Christ. Lord Jesus, You are the wisdom and power of our heavenly Father (1 Cor.1:24). I ask that You pour Your wisdom into the life and heart of my child. I ask that You provide me with a character that demonstrates Your wisdom to him/her.

Please teach him/her a healthy understanding of the fear of the Lord, which is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge (Prov.1:7; 9:10). Please give him/her an understanding heart (Prov. 8:5, KJV), so that he/she can lay up knowledge in the heart (Prov.10:14, KJV) to apply his/her heart unto instruction, and ears to the words of knowledge. (Prov.23:12).

I pray that he/she will find joy in the learning process at school. I pray that You will provide sanctified teachers and role models in his/her life from whom he/she can learn easily. Give him/her a willingness to learn from teachers, to view them as channels of blessings. Give good communications with teachers and role models. If there are difficulties in the learning experience, please provide teachers with the insight and grace to be patient, who can provide a positive learning experience.

Show me how to be encouraging towards my child when difficulties arise in learning new concepts. Forgive me for doing the wrong things when using the world's systems and standards of competition to motivate and educate my child. Provide me with the divine wisdom I need to educate this child to be happy and useful in Your service.

Thank you, Father that I, as the parent, can rest in Your promise that our children will be taught by You, and that their peace will be great! (Isa. 54:13). Amen.

(Source: *Education*, by E.G. White, especially pages 17, 18 and 275)

## Great and precious promises given to us

*My son, if you will receive my words and hide my commandments with you, so that you attend to wisdom, you shall extend your heart to understanding; - Proverbs 2:1-2.*

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you, My eye shall be on you. - Psalms 32:8.*

*Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it. - Proverbs 22:6.*

### 14. Exposure to outside influences

*I have given them Your Word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world ...They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. – John 17:14,16.*

There are many outside influences from which we want to protect our children. As a young mother I gave my children over in the hands of God before I could give them to someone else's care, even for a short time. Something that I really battled with, is the balance of allowing my children to take their own decisions at a young age, and stand back to allow the painful process resulting from failure take its course, even within a sheltered environment. Despite my unfaithfulness, I thank my heavenly Father that He has brought us as a family through a few dark valleys where outside influences could have been absolutely disastrous.

Dear heavenly Father,

I pray for the spiritual protection of my child in this world where love for You and Your Word is dying. I pray that my child will see the difference between Your blessings and the world's empty promises, that comes through magazines, advertisements, television, internet, etc. Bring him/her to understand the harms that the world's so-called "blessings" always carry.

Open the eyes of my child that they see the harm in the world's forceful way of imposing acceptance of the world's standards and rules. May his/her eyes behold Your gentle invitation to come to Your table of blessings and to sit down at a table that is prepared with a cup that overflows. (Ps.23).

Grant me the wisdom to make an environment of good influences available to my child. I know I cannot always make my child's choices for him/her, therefore I ask Your wisdom during the younger years, those years that my influence in his/her life counts the most. Help me to step out of my own yearning to comply to the world. Give me a yearning for Your blessings and help me to notice and appreciate everything that You bestow on us every day.

Where worldly influences are coming from people close to my child, whom he/she loves, I ask for special protection and for a non-judgmental attitude within myself and my child. I ask forgiveness for past attitudes of judging others "worse" than myself. I plead for patience and endurance in myself and my child, in the same way that the Spirit of Christ is patient with me when I sin.

Inspire my child to make friends with peers that influence him/her in a godly way, that he/she will not choose the company of fools, but rather choose the company of the wise in order to become wise. (Prov.13:20). Give him/her wisdom to deal merciful with others.

I thank you, heavenly Father, that You bestow blessings upon all, the good and the evil (Matt.5:45), through Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you that Your Spirit will eventually seal us from all worldly influences (Eph.4:30). Amen.

(Source: [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info))

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*Blessed is the man who has not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, and has not stood in the way of sinners, and has not sat in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is only in the Law of Jehovah; and in His Law he meditates day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivulets of water that brings forth its fruit in its seasons, and its leaf shall not wither, and all which he does shall be blessed. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in*

*the congregation of the righteous. For Jehovah knows the way of the righteous; but the way of the ungodly shall perish. - Psalms 1:1-6.*

*O Timothy [insert your child's name], guard the Deposit, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of falsely-named science, which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen. - 1 Timothy 6:20-21.*

## 15. Their protection from harm

*Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I say to you that in Heaven their angels always behold the face of My Father in Heaven. - Matthew 18:10.*

In my mind this verse above indicates that the angels guarding our children are forever replacing one another for continuous duties to protect our children, so that those relieved from duties have the chance to behold the face of our Father in heaven. These angels then spend time within the very presence of God (beholding His face) to tap from Him His love for children and His yearning that NOTHING will ever harm the children they are looking after.

This need of protection seems to increase as young teenagers grow into young adults. The sins of our children can prevent their guardian angels to perform their duties, yet there is no condemnation or accusations coming from heavenly courts about our sins causing harm to us.

Dear heavenly Father

I come to ask in the Name of Jesus Christ for the protection of my child from harm. I submit myself to Your perfect will for him/her. You promise to protect us from disease, accidents and other destructions. I humbly come to ask You to show me where I am causing breaches in my children's protection, by stepping away from Your protective laws. I know that You will show me by the gentle Spirit of Christ where my weaknesses are and that You will give me the power to rise up and overcome these sins. Thank you for the forgiveness of sins that is granted by You to all penitent sinners.

Thank you that You are not the one causing the accidents, the diseases or any other destructions. Thank you for making us aware of our sins and bringing us back to Your presence where there is complete protection. I ask that, in case of harmful events, that You will bring us through it, to the point of full restoration, where we can blossom within your protection once again.

Father, I ask in the Name of Jesus and by the merits of the blood of Christ, for protection for my child, in body, soul and mind, from the evil one. Thank you that You give Your angels charge over my child as well (Ps. 91:11). Thank you that I can stand on Your promises for protection, that You are my refuge and my fortress: my God; in You will I trust. (Ps. 91:2).

Let Your will be done. Amen.

(Source: [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info))

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His shelter, in the secrecy of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me up on a rock. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies, my encirclers; and I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle. I will sing; yea, I will sing praises to Jehovah. Hear, O Jehovah, when I cry with my voice; and have mercy on me, and answer me. My heart says to You, Seek my face; Your face, O Jehovah, I will seek. – Psalms 27:5-8.*

### **16. Life choices: Answering the question “Who is God?”**

*For who is God besides Jehovah? Or, who is a Rock except our God? - Psalms 18:31.*

As for myself, I never rejected the truths in the Word of God ever in my life. I never questioned a verse like the one quoted above. However, it seems that many thinking patterns influence our young people, so that they re-think many things. I am thankful that my children (up to now) have not questioned the basis of their faith, despite them having to walk the road of life with us as

parents through a number of faith challenges. During these times of changes to our basic beliefs, I trusted the Lord (many times in the small hours of the night) that God will protect them from spiritual “fatal injuries” while we as parents are trying to work out new understandings from the Word of God. I rejoice in the faithfulness of God that our three children studied for themselves new material, using the Word of God, and are willing to walk along with us in our present convictions about God.

Dear heavenly Father,

I stand in need of Your divine help to guide the thoughts of my child as he/she grows mature enough to ask life’s most important questions, especially questions about Your character. I know he/she needs to learn to reason logically about who You are, how You act, what You do and don’t do, how You save us from our sins, how we should live and how this life ends.

As he/she grows up to come to conclusions about life’s questions, please bring the right information before him/her that will be useful for logical conclusions. Bring role models into his/her life who demonstrate and teach the truth about Your ways. Help him/her to seek answers from You and test the spirit of every answer coming from people (1 Thess.5:21). Help me to teach him/her to steer away from vain philosophies, both by example, in my life, and by speaking to him/her about these topics (Col.2:8). Guide my words to speak with wisdom according to this child’s personality and needs (Prov. 22:6).

As he/she matures and starts to reason about life’s questions, especially about the truths in Your Word, also when it comes to apparent contradictions in the Your Word, I ask You to guide his/her thoughts. Father, I need wisdom and Your Spirit to provide me with the correct words, to explain difficult situations with simple answers, within the framework of my child’s level of understanding. I trust that You will guide my words and provide opportunities when the time comes to speak about difficult subjects to my child. Train my mind to point to the things in nature, as object lessons – just as Jesus did to teach the people. (Matt 6:30)

Thank you that Your Word is clear on issues of life. Thank you that we can turn to Your Word with any question, on any issue, for clear, simple answers.

I ask this in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## Great and precious promises given to us

*Give ear, O my people, to my law; bow down your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will speak dark sayings of old, which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their sons, showing to the generations to come the praises of Jehovah, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He has done. - Psalms 78:1-4.*

*For He set up a testimony in Jacob, and ordered a Law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should teach them to their sons; so that the generation to come might know; sons shall be born, and they shall arise and tell their sons, so that they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His Commandments. – Psalm 78:5-7*

### 17. Life choices: a marriage partner

*And Jehovah God said, It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him... And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called Woman because she was taken out of man. - Genesis 2:18, 23.*

Dear heavenly Father,

I ask that my child will find a marriage partner that is a true companion for him/her. May his/her choice secure physical, mental and spiritual well-being for them both, enabling them to bless others and their Creator together. May they be united in their beliefs about who You are and in the plan of salvation, in order to link all their interests in sacred unity. May he/she find someone with whom he/she can breathe in a pure and holy atmosphere in their home.

Give him/her wisdom from Scriptural principles to make a good choice. Help him/her to identify character flaws in a possible marriage partner early in the relationship. Assist him/her to identify the Christ-like characteristics

necessary for a successful bond that will last a lifetime, and to find a person who cherishes these characteristics, making any thoughts about a future divorce totally unnecessary. I appeal for divine protection from the enemy's deceit. If my child has a temperament where the sensational and emotional is further developed than the intellect, I ask for his/her growth to focus on uncorrupted devotion to God. If he/she makes the wrong decision about a future marriage partner, open his/her heart to wise council at the right time and guide them in such a manner to allow for exit of the relationship with Godly honor and respect.

I pray that my child will have one partner for life, unless it is Your will that he/she stays unmarried.

I humbly request that You bring my child up to a noble, elevated standard and place his/her feet on the platform of eternal truth, that he/she can make use of his/her entrusted capabilities to the fullest, so that he/she will link up with a marriage partner to share a life of service to Christ.

I put my trust in You that this decision for a marriage partner will NOT be based on foolishness, force or fear from any side, but on a willing submission to God's will and agape love.

Let Your will be done in this matter. I ask this in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *Letters to Young Lovers*, by Ellen White; *Original Love*, Adrian Ebens.)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow; ... if two lie together, then they have warmth; but how can one be warm alone? And if one overthrows him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken. – Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.*

*Whoever finds a wife finds good and gets favor from Jehovah. - Proverbs 18:22.*

## 18. Life choices: Sexual relationship

One of my biggest fears for my children involved wrong choices made by them. My most challenging times were those days that I had to stand back and watch them make the wrong choices, and letting them experience the outcome of it. In learning more about the Father-Son relationship I realized that my choices influence my children's choices to a large degree. Every time one of them stand at an important choice, I could only ask the Lord to forgive me for the wrong choices that I made in the past, and ask for their special protection and guidance, so that the influence that I subconsciously have on them will influence them towards good choices.

Dear heavenly Father

I come to You about this most sensitive area: for my child's protection from physical and mental harm that can happen from sexual sins or exposure. I ask for Your protection in this world of over-exposure to sexual temptations.

I ask that my child will be sexually pure until they get married. Help me to make plain to him/her to understand the relation between the spiritual and the physical, that the physical is an outward manifestation of what is happening in the heart. I ask for a purity of mind, heart and emotion that will prevent him/her from stepping onto dangerous ground within a physical relationship. May Jesus be the source of his/her comfort, making it unnecessary to seek comfort in the physical arms of any human.

Help him/her to make the choices that enhance the barrier of protection provided by Your laws. Guide him/her to see the place of healthy boundaries within a courtship, when it comes to the physical relationship, that it is simply there to assist and guide the heart to stay true to You and find comfort in You.

I ask for protection from incidents out of his/her control that can harm him/her in this area. Keep him/her from the temptation of committing sexual sins. Help him/her to overcome any lust in the heart that can cause sexual sins. I ask that he/she will have no sex with anyone but his/her own marriage partner, and only after the day they get married.

Please provide me with the necessary wisdom to guide my child through the development years of his/her upbringing about this sensitive topic. Help me to explain Your purpose for sex within the marriage.

Thank you for Your comfort, Your grace and agape love that guards us in the day of temptation.

I ask this in accordance to Your will, in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Comforter. Amen.

(Source: *Comforter*, Adrian Ebens)

## *Great and precious promises given to us*

*For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life; to keep you from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. - Proverbs 6:23-24.*

### 19. Life choices: A Career

Every child needs to make his/her own choice of what to do with his/her life. Too late I realized that I never had brought to my children's attention the example that Jesus Christ gave us during his earthly ministry, of one that serves (Luke 22:27). He started as a carpenter, and closed off by washing his disciples' feet on the evening before His death. To me it seems that the modern conventional way of living has steered away from earning an income by service to others, but is rather leaning towards earning money in order to provide needs, as well as "wants", in a way that comes with the least efforts. Many career options are based on human sinful conduct, and wisdom is needed to steer through the worldly application of wisdom and selfishness.

Dear heavenly Father,

I come in the Name of Lord Jesus Christ, and ask that Your will be done in the choice of a career for my child. Prompt him/her to understand his/her utter dependency on You for this critical decision.

Let him/her see the importance to serve others, by ministering to the needy and suffering, and above all, serving You, when earning income. Help me and my child to see the importance of the cross of Christ in his/her decision of a life career, to earn a living by serving others. Help him/her to steer away from selfish thinking in this matter.

I commit his/her ways to You in the career choice, and ask for Your providence in the necessary preparations. Help me to encourage my child to identify capabilities and develop efficiency. Give him/her opportunities to gain skill in the workplace.

Help us, in this important decision, to steer away from the conventional way of worldly living, which leads to a lack of Christ-like self-sacrifice.

I ask that he/she will rise above any lack of energy, application or perseverance, and to never settle for something less than what You made him/her for. Press upon him/her the need to lay hold of divine strength. Help him/her not to seek secular honor, or a more effortless and easy task, so that he/she may settle for something which he/she is not fitted.

As he/she moves through the years of preparation for a career, I ask for plenty of opportunities for him/her to serve others and being involved in everyday practical life, to prevent him/her from becoming out of touch with real life due to academic pressures, leaving him/her unprepared for life's challenges.

Father, remove my human judgement about my child and help me to prepare this child for the highest service: serving You. I cannot do this by myself; I stand in need of the Spirit of Christ. I ask that Your will be done in the choice of a career for my child. Amen.

(Source: *Education*, by Ellen White, Chapter 31, The Life Work.)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*Behold, I, I have called by name Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all workmanship, to devise designs; to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze, and in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all workmanship. And behold, I have given to him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. And I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the wise-hearted, so that they may make all that I have commanded you. - Exodus 31:2-6.*

## 20. Life choices: Learning to be non-judgmental

I grew up with the doctrine that God is a heavenly Father who condemns us if we do not keep His laws. I have not always taught the correct principles to my children. I can only ask forgiveness for the sins of my past ignorance and for the sins of my children caused by my actions.

The Lord graciously brought me to a place where I can behold Him as a Father that is:

*"... merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin..." - Exodus 34:6-7.*

*"For the Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment to the Son." - John 5:22.*

*"You judge after the flesh, I [Jesus] judge no one." - John 8:15.*

Dear heavenly Father

I thank you for Your promise that my children "will be taught by the Lord" (Isaiah 54:13). I stand in need that You show him/her by Your gentle Spirit how to cease from judging others worse than self, and attempting to make self look better by pointing to the faults of others. Help me to correct my own judgmental behavior and may my child see this and learn from me.

Help my child to discern when his/her own actions become a curse in life (Ps.34:22). Show him/her that You are always ready to show mercy in any situation. Help my child to identify the enemy of our souls – Satan – as our accuser (Rev.12:10). Thank you that You gently guide us back to You when we stray (Isaiah 63:9-14). Please help my child to come to a clear understanding of these steps of mercy that You walk with us, especially when You cloud Yourself in darkness while he/she walks in the darkness of sins (Exo.20:18-21; Ps.97:2-3 along with Ps.98:2-3).

Help him/her to discern Your gentle voice (and sometimes Your urgent voice) of calling him/her to You. (Prov.1:20-33).

Teach my child the meek spirit of discernment without condemning judgement (Rom.2:1). Give him/her the spirit of a servant of God so that he/she can learn discernment that brings understanding of Your statutes (Ps.119:125, NIV). Thank you that I can trust You completely to teach myself and my child to become non-judgmental and walk in the freedom of Your laws and Your ways (James 2:12).

May Your will be done in my child's life. I ask this in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *As You Judge*, by Adrian Ebens)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."*

*- Romans 8:1.*

*Great peace is to those who love Your Law, and there is no stumbling block [of condemnation] for them. - Psalms 119:165. [words inserted in brackets]*

*"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him.... And this is the condemnation, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than the Light, because their deeds were evil." - John 3:17,19.*

### **21. The Law of God: One True God**

The Bible speaks about the principle of God's intervention for children who have parents not dedicated to Him:

*"I am Jehovah your God, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me. ... For I Jehovah your God am a jealous God, visiting [with special care and oversight] the iniquity of the fathers upon the sons to the third and fourth generation of those that hate me, and showing mercy to*

*thousands of those that love Me and keep My commandments.” – Exodus 20:2-6.*

I stand in need of that special care for my child, because along with all other human parents, I have fallen short of God’s glory (His character) many times (Rom.6:23). For more details, see the book *As You Judge*, by Adrian Ebens, Chapter 22 – Christ’s Judgement Seat, available at [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info) free of charge.

I have sometimes in the past made use of force, trying to implement God’s principles in our home. I now understand more fully that God’s agape love never makes use of any force. I have asked (and received) forgiveness for doing that. My heart overflows with gratitude for this forgiveness from our Father.

Dear heavenly Father,

I come in the Name of Jesus Christ to ask that You give my child a clear understanding of You as his/her only God (Exo.20:2,3). Help him/her to identify things, people, work, activities, any dedications in his/her life that become more important than You. Help him/her to dedicate everything to You each morning and set his/her priorities in biblical order. Help him/her to find the balance between applying himself/herself to live life to the fullest, and over-dedication which drains him/her. I pray that any over-tired feelings will drive him/her back into Your arms to find full, restoring rest.

I ask You to give my child special visitation, oversight and care (Exo.20:5), to teach him/her Your judgement and make special deposition of Your agape love in him/her. Help me to turn from my wicked ways, so that I can rightly lead my child in an appropriate manner in Your everlasting way (Ps.139:24).

Please help me to implement Your agape principles in my home with the necessary urgency, yet without any force. Teach me to copy Your ways in leading my children into a closer relationship with You and a knowledge of You.

Help my child to perceive the world’s forceful, manipulative ways, which compels people to submit to principles that only lead to more sin and death. Send Your angels to protect my child if he/she steps unwittingly into these worldly things. Thank you for Your full protection when we turn our backs on the world and step into Your agape love.



Thank you for full forgiveness and comfort that I can receive in abundance from You. Thank you for freedom from sin and the restoration that we receive, in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *As You Judge*, Adrian Ebens, Chapter 22 – Christ’s Judgement Seat)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*And the LORD thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for the LORD will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers: If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul. - Deuteronomy 30:9-10.*

### **22. The Law of God: Taking the Name of God in vain**

*You shall not take the name of Jehovah your God in vain. For Jehovah will not hold him guiltless that takes His name in vain. - Exodus 20:7.*

The Lord and God of the heavens has provided us with the endearing Name of our Father with which we can approach Him. I have only recently learnt that if the Bible refers to the Name of God, as well as His glory, it also refers to His character (See Exo.33:18,19, and compare with Exo.34:5,6). It has opened my eyes to many Biblical principles. We want our children to understand the value of the Name of God and to value Him, so that they do not want to take His Name in vain.

Dear heavenly Father

Teach my child to develop a divine reverence (fear) of Your Name and Your character, so that it will be hard for him/her to take Your Name in vain.

Teach him/her to practice restraint when challenges bring frustration, that can cause profanity to exit from his/her lips. I ask You to put a guard at the mouth of my child. Help him/her to gain insight into the source of these challenges, which is often someone else's pain brought about by sins.

You have given us a voice to express our thoughts and emotions. Therefore, I ask for emotional stability and maturity when my child gets challenged in any way. Help him/her to speak words of life coming from a heart filled with Your Spirit. Make his/her voice a channel of Your blessings. Help him/her to speak in full, clear, round tones, using pure and correct language, words that are kind and courteous.

If my child needs to use words of correction, especially if it comes to someone else taking Your Name in vain, give him/her words to speak in soft tones, words spoken in love, leaving the force and power of the correction to the Spirit of God on the soul hearing the words. Let his/her words be with "soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us." (Titus 2:8).

I ask Your grace in my own life to speak blessing from You over my child, that will bring forth from his/her mouth words of life and a savor of life unto life (2 Cor.2:16), and not of death.

I ask that Your will be done, in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.  
(From: *Christ Object Lessons*, Chapter 25: Talents, The talent of Speech)

### ***Great and precious promises given to us***

*Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. - Daniel 2:20.*

*O Jehovah our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens! - Psalms 8:1.*

*Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of Jehovah our God. - Psalms 20:7.*

*According to Your name [Your character], O God, so is Your praise to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is full of righteousness; let mount Zion rejoice! - Psalms 48:10.*

### 23. The Law of God: Sabbath Keeping

*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is the Sabbath of Jehovah your God. You shall not do any work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter, your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger within your gates. For in six days Jehovah made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore Jehovah blessed the Sabbath day, and sanctified it. - Exodus 20:8-11.*

My heart overflows with gratitude for these times of special refreshing from God's great heart of agape love, the opportunity for dedication to Him and His Word, along with fellowship with other Christians; times when we can come away from the world and from weekly work, to dedicate ourselves to God once again. I am even now learning that the rest I receive from God are naturally bestowed on my children by my observation of these times. It filters through to the people that we are often in contact with, like water that run through the ground which bring life to the plants growing in the soil.

Dear heavenly Father,

Thank you for the special gift of the Sabbath and the principle of rest.

I ask that my child will understand the difference between sabbath keeping that is based on good works and sabbath keeping that is based on restful sabbath keeping, resting in Your arms, Father.

Help me (us) as parent(s) to arrange our sabbaths that it may contain times of praise to You, times of heartfelt prayer and times of study in the Word, times to recall the blessings that You have bestowed in the past and times to meet the spiritual needs of others. Inspire me with ideas and opportunities to teach my child the true meaning of sabbath keeping. May my child find joy in

participating in all activities on Sabbath. Open up his/her mind to experience and treasure the Sabbath, as the end time events of unrest unfold around us.

Thank you for the monthly and annual times of holy rest. I pray that my child desires to actively participate in a meaningful manner, which is not forced, but based on a heart longing to spend time in Your presence, along with other believers.

Teach my child about the Sabbath as a sign of sanctification and obedience, as a sign of receiving the Spirit of God, and that both the sanctification and obedience of true Sabbath keeping is received from Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Sabbath. Make us aware of the sealing in the Spirit of God that takes place during Sabbath hours, when we spend time with You. Teach me and my child the true meaning of the cross in the center of the gospel and the sabbath in the center of the law.

May Sabbath keeping bring to him/her the message of true joy and freedom from sin and guilt. I ask this in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, our source of Rest. Amen.

(Source: *Observance of the Sabbath*, 6 Tes 349-368; as well as *Sabbath Fountain*, by Adrian Ebens, section "No Sabbath without Sacrifice")

## Great and precious promises given to us

*And also I gave them My sabbaths to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am Jehovah who sets them apart. - Ezekiel 20:12.*

*"...and keep My sabbaths holy; and they shall be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am Jehovah your God." - Ezekiel 20:20.*

*"If you turn your foot because of the Sabbath, from doing what you please on My holy days, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of Jehovah, honorable; and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, then you shall delight yourself in Jehovah; and I will cause you to ride on the high places of the earth, and feed yourself with the inheritance of*

*Jacob your father. For the mouth of Jehovah has spoken.” – Isaiah 58:13-14.*

## 24. The Law of God: Honor Your Parents

*Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long upon the land which Jehovah your God gives you. – Exodus 20:12.*

God has graciously provided us as parents the privilege to pass the blessings of God on to our children. As parents we have the privilege and noble responsibility to form a part of our children’s direct channel of blessing from heaven. We need to trust God to instruct both ourselves and our children on this blessing system: about humble submission to authority and thankfulness for blessings received.

Dear heavenly Father

I thank you in the Name of Jesus Christ that You provided us with a channel of blessing.

Help me to demonstrate to my child these principles by my actions towards my husband (or any other authority in my life).

I desire that my child will understand the reason for the promise of a long life if we honor our parents and thus submit to the blessings of authority. Help him/her to trust You for everything that he/she needs, even the life that we have from moment to moment. Help him/her to bow in obedience and thankfulness to You, and to be grateful for the life that You supply every moment (Act 17:28), along with everything else that he/she needs.

Whenever there has been disunity between my husband and I about childrearing, I ask Your forgiveness if I have been dishonoring him before our children. I plead for unity between us as parents in the way we bring up this child. I ask that You open my child’s heart, mind and soul for submission and obedience to both his/her parents and to grandparents.

I ask that my child will see and appreciate the extension of the blessings from authority beyond the family into the community, how humble submission

to the world's authority opens the channel of blessings from You, Father, the Source of all life.

As we move into the last day events, as worldly authorities defy Your Name and principles, when obedience to You and obedience to the world clashes, I ask that You strengthen my child with the necessary skills and character to appeal in a divine manner. I ask for an attitude of humble and loving submission to You and Your will under all circumstances.

I pray this in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: *Life Matters*, by Adrian Ebens)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. And fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. - Ephesians 6:1-4.*

*Consider what I say, and the Lord will give you understanding in all things. - 2 Timothy 2:7.*

### **25. The Law of God: You shall not kill**

*You shall not kill. - Exodus 20:13.*

I grew up with the understanding that the wars of the Old Testament were often initiated or commanded by God. Only recently I started to understand that God gives life and does not take life away (2 Sam.14:14, see Modern King James Version). This belief led to many contradictions in the Bible, in the way I understood it. Resolving these contradictions were not easy, and led to many hours of Bible studies and heart searching. I am now convinced that God does not take life away, but the principles with which I raised my children were different. Together we searched the Scriptures and found forgiveness for many past mistakes. We learned that the anger and wrath of God is when He turns

His face away from us and leaves us unprotected to the onslaughts of the enemy.

Our Lord Jesus taught us that our feelings and thoughts of anger towards another is the same as committing murder (Matt.5:22). Stepping off the belief that God does not get angry and kill in His anger, is certainly a great motivation for growing away from anger towards others. By beholding you become likewise.

Dear heavenly Father,

I ask that You give me wisdom to teach my child that no man may take life, because You do not take life (Exo.20:13). Help me to find the right words, to explain to him/her the verses in Your Word that seems to contradict this.

I humbly ask your forgiveness for believing that You were a heavenly Father who would turn away from love and become angry at us as sinners and desire to punish us for our sins. I praise You for resolving for us the apparent contradictions in Your Word on Your character, that You showed us that You are always merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth (Exo.34:6). Thank you that You never get angry and stop showing mercy, but that You walk with us to help us recognize our sins, always pleading that we would repent and return to You (Ps.32:1-5; Jes.63:9). Father, my child and I need to grow in this understanding of the processes involved when You remove from us our heart of stone and give us a heart of flesh (Eze.11:19). Father, we stand in need of Your wisdom and a deeper loving relationship with You (Prov.3:3).

Help him/her to understand that human anger never brings blessing or peace (James 1:20), and that Your anger is manifested by deep grief and sorrow about the wrong that was committed. Help him/her to take the matter to You in earnest prayer. Help him/her to resolve misunderstandings and conflicts in a humble way. Please build divine reasoning capabilities into his/her character. May his/her emotional reaction to anger be sourced from Your Word. Teach him/her the power of forgiveness. I rely totally on You to transform my child, as well as myself, on this matter. Wash me with Your blood and Your grace during stressful times, so that my child may witness through me Your response of love, tenderness and forgiveness.

I ask these in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.  
(Source: [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info))

## Great and precious promises given to us

*For we must all die ... And God does not take a life... - 2 Samuel 14:14.*

*Keep far from a false matter, and do not kill the innocent and righteous. For I will not justify the wicked. - Exodus 23:7.*

*And this is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. - 1 John 1:5.*

*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness nor shadow of turning. - James 1:17.*

## 26. The Law of God: Rejecting immorality

*You shall not commit adultery. - Exodus 20:14.*

Satan is doing anything to break down the image of God (the relationship between the Father and His Son) in mankind (the husband-wife relationship). In my mind, there are three great areas where immoral decisions can cause great harm: (1) the financial area, (2) physical substance abuse and (3) the sexual area. Let us trust God to give extra protection in these areas of stealing, in physical and emotional health and in morality.

Dear heavenly Father,

Thank you for Your clear Word indicating the blessings in having one partner of the opposite sex for life. If there have been wrong examples imprinting unholy thoughts into my child's mind, I ask You for forgiveness on behalf of those who did this, as well as everyone involved, including myself. I seek the restoration and healing which only You can give. Thank you for Your



forgiveness and healing balm that goes much further than any human can imagine.

Keep him/her safe from media influences (internet, radio, TV, music, films, videos, social media, etc.) which exposes him/her to immoral lifestyles. Help him/her to take precaution to prevent exposure to immorality before it happens.

Help me to explain to him/her the principles of the relationship of the Father and His Son, as portrayed in the relationship between husband and wife. Make Your seed principle clear in his/her mind. May he/she have a clear picture of Your blessings accompanying a moral lifestyle, so that it will not be viewed as a restriction to him/her, but rather a source of joy and blessing which channels Your agape love (Ps.128:3).

Help him/her to find his/her identity and comfort in You (John 16:7), so that it becomes unnecessary to seek comfort in a physical relationship with someone else. Reveal Your love to him/her, making it easy to identify and reject immorality. I ask for a non-judgmental, merciful attitude in him/her towards those who live immoral lives. Give him/her the grace and courage to explain to others the good reasons for living according to high moral standards, along with the blessings thereof.

Thank you for the huge blessings found in close relationships. I pray that You bestow these on my child as well, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info))

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*“How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” - Genesis 39:9. – the words of Joseph to the wife of his master.*

*Say to wisdom, You are my sister; and call understanding your kinsman, so that they may keep you from the strange woman, from the stranger who flatters with her words. - Proverbs 7:4-5.*

## 27. The Law of God: Refrain from stealing

*You shall not steal. - Exodus 20:15.*

As mentioned before, in the way I perceive life, there are three great areas in our modern lifestyle where immoral decisions can cause great harm: (1) the financial area, (2) physical substance abuse and (3) the sexual area. Let us trust God for good sound decisions when it comes to finances. There are certain principles set out in the Bible to order this area, and our children needs to learn about these. Yet, my example as parent often speaks louder than many other voices.

Dear heavenly Father

I ask that You provide my child with a clear conscience as he/she learns to deal with money matters and financial issues (Exo.20:15). Help him/her to understand that both spiritual and physical blessings come from You.

Help my child to deal honestly in money matters, whether it is his/her own finances or other people's finances. Provide me with practical ways to teach him/her the biblical way of handling finances. May I be the example in this matter that he/she may follow, as I am a follower of You, Lord Jesus.

Inspire my child to be a giving person, finding balance between saving up for future usage (Prov.10:5) and giving to those who are in real need (Lev.25:35).

I ask that my child will find it easy and a joy to pay tithes and offerings, in accordance to your laws (Mal.3:10). May he/she always trust You for his/her spiritual and physical needs in all of his/her life.

Please forgive my child (and myself) if we refrain from giving to others that which You have shared with us so liberally. Thank you that You provide Your principles of giving and sharing with others, so that we grow past only receiving for our own needs and pleasure (Matt.10:8).

May he/she find joy in his/her work and services offered to others, whether in a job or in his/her own business, so that the finances produced from these will be blessed. Thank you for You protection on his/her finances and that You want to bless him/her with wisdom so that tithes and offerings

from his/her finances can be a greater blessing in the ministry of the Gospel (Gal.6:6).

I ask this in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: [www.fatheroflove.info](http://www.fatheroflove.info))

## **Great and precious promises given to us**

*But you shall remember Jehovah your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, so that He may confirm His covenant which He has sworn to your fathers, as it is today. - Deuteronomy 8:18.*

### **28. The Law of God: Refrain from lying**

*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. - Exodus 20:16.*

During the years that I raised my children, there are many areas where I allowed lies in my heart and my habits, some of which were unknown to myself. These were picked up by my children and unconsciously I have taught them these. I can now only ask for forgiveness in all these areas. The lies that bothered me the most is the fact that I have misrepresented the image of God and the character of God to my children to a large extent. This was not willfully done, but in ignorance. Yet the effects are there. My prayer forever is that my witness to my children will be truthful. I stand amaze to see how my children can “bounce back” from negative reactions to positive reactions to my parental influence (which has not always been the best) as we walk the road to recovery via forgiveness from God.

Dear heavenly Father

I realize that if we are at home in the heavenly atmosphere, we reject all lies (Rev.14:5). Thank you for Your Son, Jesus, who is our truth (Joh.14:6) who opens the way to Your presence, Father. I ask Your forgiveness for misrepresenting You and the truth of Your Word to my child. I ask You for a watchguard before my mouth, to keep the door of my lips (Ps.143:3). Thank you that, as a parent, I can source truth from You.

I ask that we speak truth with grace in our home towards each other, that there will be an atmosphere of acceptance, instead of pointing out each other's faults. When it comes to untrue ways of expressing our thoughts, help my child (and us as a family) to identify and reject lies, encourage us to speak truthfully in all matters – recognizing this can be a very challenging practice. Help him/her to never resort to untrue statements in order to save his/her own reputation. May lies never be his/her refuge to accomplish a purpose.

I ask You, heavenly Father, to uproot all lies in our home and in our hearts about the immortality of the soul and about Your character, so that we can clearly see the truth about Your plan of salvation. May he/she be open to instruction from the Word which reveals the lies in common christian doctrines in order to find the gems of truth in Your Word and live by it.

I ask You to educate myself and my child (our family) in the speaking of truth at all times, with grace and love.

I ask this in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: 20LtMs, Ms 195, 1905, par. 2, and 3)

### **Great and precious promises given to us**

*And I looked, and lo, the Lamb stood on Mount Zion. And with Him were a hundred and forty-four thousands, having His Father's name written in their foreheads. ... And in their mouth was found no guile, for they were without blemish before the throne of God. - Revelation 14:1, 5.*

*"...my mouth shall speak of wise things; and the thoughts of my heart shall be of understanding..." – Psalms 49:3.*

*A faithful witness will not lie... A true witness delivers souls... - Proverbs 14:5, 25.*

## 29. The Law of God: Refrain from coveting

*You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is your neighbor's. - Exodus 20:17.*

Dear heavenly Father

I come to You, in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, to ask for a heart filled with gratitude and thankfulness in my child towards You and others in his/her life who bless him/her. Help me to demonstrate submissive selflessness to him/her so that he/she may understand the channel of blessings, the principles of asking and receiving in gratitude, of giving to others without expecting a return. Help my child to understand the message of his/her true identity in You as a son/daughter of God, that You will supply all his/her needs.

Forgive me for all my selfish prayers for my child, coveting earthly possessions for him/her, even coveting a position of honor in the church. Guide my example to focus upon coveting the rich attributes of Your character. May my child see in me the deep desire for eternal things, and a complete disregard for all the things that only fill one's heart with pride and selfishness. Let my example richly proclaim satisfaction and contentment with the simple necessities You have graciously provided each and every day.

I ask that You will reveal to my child whenever there is any coveting in his/her heart. Help him/her to identify the root of the problem, to uproot sin, ask forgiveness and find a new heart about the matter (Ezek. 36:26). Help him/her see that by coveting things (whether material goods or talents or positions) will never bring lasting joy.

Help me to remind my child that You have placed an infinite value upon him/her, so that he/she never need to compare himself/herself with anybody else, which may lead to coveting. Thank you for Your declaration of value over us all: This is my beloved son/daughter, in whom I am well-pleased. (Matt.3:17).

I pray this in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Source: 5T 188.1 – 5T 191.1)

## Great and precious promises given to us

*A Psalm of David. Jehovah is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.  
– Psalms 23:1-2.*

### 30. Leaving home

Dear heavenly Father,

I thank you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the privilege and blessing that I have to raise this child for Your purpose and Your ministry. I ask that, once he/she leaves home, he/she will live a sanctified life, a life of service to You, and uphold a relationship with You that is purely his/her own, and not an extension of my relationship with You.

Help him/her to find forgiveness of his/her sins, to freely forgive those around him/her, to live within the power of forgiveness, as bestowed through the channel of the divine pattern.

I ask that You continue to open in his/her mind a deeper and deeper understanding of Your cross and growth in understanding the Sabbath rest. I also ask for a growth in understanding the reverence (fear) of the Lord, the plan of salvation and that he/she will know the joy of a sanctified life.

May he/she always be involved in a community of believers who fear You, who give glory to You by living according to Your laws and Your character, study Your Word to understand Your judgement, and find rest in You (Rev.14:6-7). I thank You for the promise that he/she can overcome the world (Rev.14:8) and step in safety through the end time crises (Rev.14:9-11).

I thank you for the promise of Your patience for my child and the other saints in his/her life, enabling them to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus (Rev.14:12), even if it eventually comes to the time that I am resting in the grave.

I bow down before You and praise You, Father, in the Name of Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

*And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me,  
Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord  
from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit,  
that they may rest from their labours;  
and their works do follow them.*

*~ Revelation 14:13 ~*

# *Prayers for our Children*

God has graciously brought back to us the knowledge of the Father and the Son, which is referred to as the Divine Pattern; and is showing us what is agape love (which is completely emptied of all self-seeking) versus eros love (which is always self-seeking).

According to the Divine Pattern, I, as the parent, determine in what manner the blessings from my heavenly Father is bestowed onto my children. That does not place me in a position of power, but rather in a place where I need a divine character, so that I can portray the characteristics of Jesus Christ to my children.

Let us tap from the blessing structure built into the relationship between our heavenly Father and His Son: thankfulness and praise to the great Giver which unlocks the streams of blessings from heaven.



Nina (left) and her three children: Dawid, Fransonet and Marié, 2017.  
Photo taken by the father of the family, Bester Snyman.