

Ladies Prayer International Newsletter



United Pentecostal Church Intl October 2021



Putting my Family in His Hands

By Sandra Morgan



Over the years, I have definitely learned to put my family into God's capable and loving hands. There have definitely been moments when I got in the way. I thought I knew what was best, only to cause myself and others unnecessary stress and pain. I have had my share of heartache. I experienced moments I didn't like or didn't understand—losing loved ones to tragedy or an early death, a child with a life altering diagnosis—opportunities to question what was happening in my world, to feel anger toward God.

I will never forget a moment that occurred nearly a year ago, a moment that forever altered my thinking. I came very close to losing something very precious, because I wasn't giving the circumstances of my family to God. I was allowing fear to rule. In response to fear I frequently quote Psalm 56:3, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee." I have learned to do things even when I'm afraid.

First Peter 5:7 says, "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you." This scripture is so simple, but we make it difficult by allowing our own thinking to get in the way, allowing doubt and fear to rule. Casting here means "to throw." We cannot expect God to just take our worries from us; we must give them to Him. He never stops caring. The "eth" in *careth* means He continually cares for us. He simply never stops loving and caring.

As ladies, we tend to be worriers. For instance, my youngest son was diagnosed with a spinal tumor when he was fourteen, and it has forever altered his life. He is now twenty and for the most part can handle his basic care; but his condition is deteriorating. I find myself worrying about who will care for him when his father and I are no longer here or when we are unable to assist him. Lately, I have felt the Lord impress Matthew 6:34 on my heart, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself." I know this doesn't excuse us from making plans and preparations for his future, but it does encourage me to place my faith in God and trust that He holds the future in His hands. His ability to care for my son is much greater than mine. He has a plan and a purpose for him that goes beyond what I can fathom.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).

The only safe place to put my family is in the hands of God. With much prayer, we do all we can according to Scripture, doing our part to prepare them and allowing God's peace to surround us.

Note: Sandra Morgan and her husband, Jeffrey, pastor Hope Center Church in Mountain Home, Arkansas. She is mom to four preachers and Gigi to two beautiful grands (with another on the way). She feels blessed beyond measure.

Prayer for My Family

by Elizabeth Turner



Before my husband and I were saved, we wondered if we should even have children, for we thought, "How can we raise children so that they will grow up to be good people?" Then we came into the church, and we began to understand that the Bible contained all of the patterns needed to raise our future children well "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

Later, after hearing a minister's wife teaching about child-rearing and describing how she prayed for each of her children outside their bedroom doors after they were asleep each night, I decided what I wanted to ask of the Lord for our future children and began praying for them every night. Here is what I prayed, inserting their names, after they were born.

Jesus, thank You for our Rebecca. Save her in heaven, Jesus. Whatever it takes, save her in heaven!

Jesus, give her some talents to use for Your glory, and make the way that she will use those talents only for Your glory.

Give my husband and me the wisdom to raise her in such a way that she will WANT to serve You, that she will be EAGER to serve You, and that she WILL serve You, Jesus, every day of her life.

Help her to see this old, wicked world as it really is without partaking of the world. Give her a disgust for sin, yet a compassion for the sinner. And let all that help her to greatly appreciate You, Jesus, Your Word, Your Spirit, Your Truth, Your people, and Your church.

If You would tarry long enough that she would marry, I pray that even now You are raising up that young man to serve You well. Help them both to know that no one else is right for them, but that they are right for each other, when the time is right. Jesus, give them the patience to wait for Your perfect time.

I pray that they will seek You in all things; that they will seek you as to when to marry and when to have children. And I pray that every child they have will be a tremendous blessing to their work for You, and not a hindrance. Help them always to work as a family for You. I pray that You will give each of them a ministry to work in for You. And, Jesus, give each of them the grit, the determination, the love, and the burden they need to give their all to working for You, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Note: Elizabeth Turner and her husband served as UPCI missionaries for thirty-six years in both South Korea and the former Soviet Union and now teach at Indiana Bible College. She has found that praying for her children, and now grandchildren, has been effective, since all are saved and active in the church. Her son and his family are UPCI missionaries in Estonia and her daughter is deeply involved in the Bible Quizzing and Sunday school ministry.

My Family in God's Hands

By Anne Johnston



"The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms" (Deuteronomy 33:27).

What a thrill to hold that new baby in our arms for the first time. We thank the Lord for blessing us with this precious child. Then fear grips us. We realize that we are responsible to protect that child and to raise them to love and serve God. How in the world will we ever accomplish that task?

It is a special moment when we present our child to the Lord. As the pastor holds the little one and prays for them, we feel the presence of the Lord surrounding us. Faith rises in our heart that the Lord will give us the direction and guidance we need to mold and shape their life. We are just caretakers.

As the child grows older and is joined by brothers and/or sisters, the task becomes more overwhelming. But

the Lord gives us assurance that He is with us every step of the way. Our duty is to take them to Sunday School and church, build a family altar in our home, and teach them how to read their Bible and pray. What a joy it is when we see them open their hearts to the Lord and let His love fill their life.

We teach them that God has a plan for their lives, that He wants them to choose their friends carefully, and to be open to His call. We advise them in their choice of careers, praying that the Lord will help them to make wise decisions. Will we make mistakes? Of course, we will, but we stand on the promise that God works all things together for our good.

There comes a day when they leave our home to make their own way in the world. We will not be there to advise them in every decision they make. We trust that with the Lord's help we have done our best to prepare them. Now we must relinquish our control and place them in God's hands. We will still love them, pray for them, and be there when they call. We let go of any fear we have and trust the Lord to continue His work in their lives.

When one of our children decides to walk away from everything they have been taught, the enemy would like to tell us that we have failed. That is when we must lean on the Lord and realize that He can look after them much better than we can. We call their name every day in prayer, reminding God that they are His child, and trusting Him to restore them.

We cannot force them to serve God, but with God all things are possible, and no matter what age our children are, we leave them safely in His hands. We will never give up praying and believing that He is control and that He is working all things for our good.

Note: Anne Johnston is a graduate of UPBI (now Northeast Christian College) in New Brunswick, a minister's kid who has been involved in various aspects of Gospel work most of her life. A mother of three and grandmother of six, Anne attends West Island United Pentecostal Church in Pointe Claire, QC, and is a member of The King's Translators.

From the Editor



God is doing mighty things!

God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in:
English, Arabic, Chinese simplified, Chinese traditional, Czech, Dutch, Fijian, Filipino,
French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish,
Sri Lankan, Swahili, Swedish, and Thai.

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Who we are . . . Since 1999: Ladies Prayer Intl. is made up of women worldwide, who meet on the first Monday of each month to unite in focused prayer for their children and the children of the local church and community.

Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
- That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (I John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
- That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38). [Text](#)