

Children Growing to be Like Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, when a child, grew in wisdom (intellectually), stature (physically), favor with God (spiritually), and favor with people (socially) = in "Whole Person" ways. God the Father's pre-arranged destiny for all of His children is to live our lives molded by the role model of Jesus. (Romans 8:29) Knowing the purposes of God for children gives us a plan to pray this "fullness of Christ" into their lives. (Ephesians 4:13)

In the New Testament 2 Greek words are used in describing prayer "for" others – "hyper" (intensive prayer in behalf of someone), and "peri" (as in "perimeter" – surrounding someone with caring prayer). The Prayer Guide provides ways to "pray around" a child's life with specific concerns for various areas and aspects of a child's everyday living.

There are many practical ways in which to pray for children. The Prayer Guide answers the question "How can I pray for a child on a daily basis?" Each prayer area could be used on a given day of the week (Monday through Sunday).

Parents and grandparents can pray for their children and grandchildren. Parents can request trusted friends to be prayer partners with them in praying for their children. Friends of missionaries and Christian workers can pray for their children. Supporters of youth in orphanages and childcare sponsoring agencies can pray for their children. Every child should have someone praying for her/him.

This Whole Person Praying Guide is a gift to God's people from the Frederick family, as part of the "Blessing of Abraham" (Genesis 12:3) - families enriching families with the friendship which God and Abraham had with one another (James 2:23). This Blessing of "Father" Abraham was extended by God to families of all nationalities through the redeeming sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross and the gift of God's Holy Spirit to all who have faith in Him. (Galatians 3:8, 13-14)

WHOLE PERSON PRAYING FOR CHILDREN

Praying Jesus' Lifestyle
into a Child's Daily Living

"And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men."
Luke 2:52 (NASB)

A Vision for Child Growth:

To pray daily for God's creational-redemptive purposes to be birthed and built into every area of a child's life

A Whole Person Praying Guide for Children

Whole Person Praying is seeking the Father in prayer for His "Creator-Redeemer development" for a child's total personality growth, in the faith-pattern by which Jesus Christ grew as a child under His parents' authority in His home and in His community. (*Luke 2:52; John 8:28-29*)

Praying for God's Growth in a Child's SPIRITUAL LIFE

- + Praying for a child to grow in knowing the Father and Jesus Christ in increasing eternal life (*John 17:3*),
- + Praying that a child grow in developing a lifestyle like Jesus Christ (*Ephesians 4:1-13*)
- + Praying for a child to grow in committed fellowship with the Body of Christ (*Acts 2:41-42*)
- + Praying that a child grow in serving the Lord in His Great Commission Kingdom purposes (*Luke 24:45-47*)

Praying for God's Growth in a Child's PERSONAL LIFE

- + Praying for a child to grow in having good health habits in eating, exercise, rest (*Proverbs 4:20-23*)
- + Praying for a child's right use of talents, abilities and resources from God (*Matthew 25:14-31*)
- + Praying for a child's careful managing of possessions (clothes, toys, etc.) and money (*Luke 16:10*)
- + Praying for a child's wise investing of time, energy and life-priorities (*Ephesians 5:15-21*)

Praying for God's Growth in a Child's FAMILY and HOME

- + Praying for God to unite the family in loving, "one-anothering" relationships (*1 John 4:9-11*)
- + Praying for a child's parents to nurture and train them in Godly ways (*Deuteronomy 6:6-7*)
- + Praying for a child to honor, appreciate, obey, serve the parents (*Ephesians 6:1-3*)
- + Praying for a child to do home "chores" willingly and thoughtfully and thoroughly (*Philippians 2:3-4*)

Praying for God's Growth in a Child's SCHOOL and WORK

- + Praying for a child to be a good student in knowledge, wisdom and skills (*Proverbs 2:6*)
- + Praying for a child to learn healthy and dependable work habits (*1 Thessalonians 3:10-12*)
- + Praying for a child to learn to work willingly and skillfully under supervision (*Colossians 3:22-25*)
- + Praying for a child to discover and use their spiritual gifts, and discern God's life-calling (*1 Peter 4:10-11*)

Praying for God's Growth in a Child's FRIENDSHIPS and SOCIAL LIFE

- + Praying for a child to develop genuine and healthy friendships (*Proverbs 17:17*)
- + Praying for a child to be doing constructive social and recreational activities (*Colossians 3:17*)
- + Praying for a child to learn to rest, relax and enjoy life (*Matthew 11:28-30, Psalm 23:3*)
- + Praying for a child to develop a helping heart for the needy in the community (*Matthew 25:34-36*)

Praying for God's Growth in a Child's SPECIAL NEEDS, PROBLEMS and CHALLENGES

- + Praying for a child to overcome fears and worries (*Philippians 4:6*)
- + Praying for a child to experience God's forgiveness (*Psalms 32:5*)
- + Praying for a child to learn to turn trials into spiritual growth (*1 Thessalonians 5:18, James 1:2-3*)
- + Praying for a child to live fruitfully with weaknesses and limitations (*1 Corinthians 12:9-10*)

PRAISE and THANKS to the Lord for His Presence and Working in the Child's Life

- + Glorifying God for Himself (*Psalms 18:1-2*)
- + Praising God for His provisions (*Psalms 103:1-5*)
- + Worshipping God for His workings (*Romans 8:31-32*)
- + Thanking God for His promises (*1 Peter 1:3-4*)