

PRAYING EFFECTIVELY FOR YOUR FAMILY

April 10, 2016 Philippians 1:3-11 by Bob Branch
Changing The World Through Prayer, Part 2 of 4

MAIN IDEA: One of the most loving and powerful things you can do for someone is pray for them! Persistently & boldly pray for your family.

In the midst of struggle, prayer is not the last resort. It is the first order of business!

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace...”

Philippians 4:6-7 NLT

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. **Philippians 1:3-6**

1. **In a crowded life, it’s important to REMEMBER to pray for those we love.** (Lam. 2:19)
2. **THANK God for them because they are gifts from him to us.** You’re blessed to have them. (Ps. 127:3-5)
3. **Pray TRUSTING that God is working and RELEASE them into God’s trusted hands.** (Phil. 1:6; 2:13; 4:6-7, 13)

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God’s grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. **Philippians 1:7-8**

4. **Let your AFFECTION and CONNECTION drive you to pray for them.** (Mark 5:22f)

Reorient yourself out of worry/control onto prayer!

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. **Philippians 1:9-11**

5. **Pray for their LOVE TO GROW—their character, who they’re becoming!**

- A **wise** and **deep** love
- A **discerning** and **pure** love
- A love that **fills them up**
- A love that **sets things right** wherever they go

6. **Pray with VISION for them.** Pray into them. Over them. Covering them.

“So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of his call. May he give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do.” **2 Thessalonians 1:11 NLT**

“pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your children...” **Lamentations 2:19**

All these things apply for praying **for your spouse as well!**

One of the most loving and powerful things you can do for someone is pray for them!