



**Thistlebend in the Garden**  
**Week Two Handout of Scriptures and Prayer References**

**MARRIAGE PRAYERS**

- **Pray that there would be open lines of communication.**
- **Pray that there wouldn't be any topics that would be off-limits because you or your spouse get defensive or feel embarrassed.**
- **Pray that you and your spouse could share struggles with each other and share where you need help.**
- **Pray that you could talk about your fears and failures, past and present.**
- **Pray that the Lord would give you gentle, kind, loving spirit when you speak the truth in love to him.**
- **Pray that you would speak to your spouse just as you would want him to speak to you.**
- **Pray that you can discuss and work on your sexual relationship.**
- **Pray that you can share with each other what God is teaching you in His word, in a sermon, or in your daily devotional times?**
- **Do you keep short accounts of your sin or offenses and confess your sin and ask for forgiveness quickly. Pray that this would be so. you confess your sins to one another as needed, as often as sin arises?**
- **Pray that you can pray together.**
- **Pray that when you do pray together that you can confess your sins one to another and pray for each other.**
- **Pray that the Lord would give you patience and trust Him where there are areas that really need work.**

**PRAYING FOR A PRODIGAL CHILD** excerpts from a *Desiring God* article:  
<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/pray-them-home>

**1. Pray for a heart of brokenness, no matter the earthly cost.**

It's incredibly hard to pray for anything but a comfortable, successful, and pain-free life for our children. But as Christian parents, the greatest eternal good that we can pray for them is their salvation over their earthly happiness or comfort. We have to fight for them in this world filled with temporary pleasures, self-gratification, and blurry lines — entrusting their lives to our Lord — even if the path of salvation comes through pain. I am eternally grateful that my parents loved me enough to pray for my brokenness, a brokenness that would lead to healing. We will only be bold enough to pray a prayer of brokenness over our

children when we ourselves have been broken before God and trust his love for our children and us. It's only when we have completely surrendered our children to him that we can pray, "Father, use what you must to save my child from an eternity apart from you, no matter the cost."

## **2. Pray against the enemy's desire to have them.**

"We will only be bold enough to pray for our child's brokenness when we ourselves have been broken before God." A battle is being waged over our children's lives.

One of the great weapons God has given parents to fight against the world's pull and the enemy's schemes over their children is to pray the way Christ did for Peter: "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers" (Luke 22:31-32).

## **3. Pray specific Scripture over their life.**

Even if your child wants nothing to do with the truth and hates to hear the word of God, they can do nothing to stop you from praying Scripture for them. This is another mighty weapon God has given to parents. Pray Psalm 18:16-19 over them and pray it often:

He sent from on high, he took me;  
he drew me out of many waters.  
He rescued me from my strong enemy  
and from those who hated me,  
for they were too mighty for me.  
They confronted me in the day of my calamity,  
but the Lord was my support.  
He brought me out into a broad place;  
he rescued me, because he delighted in me.

No matter how far your child seems to be from Jesus or what path they are on, you can fight for their life with the powerful weapon of God's word.

## **PRAYERS FOR CHRISTIAN FAMILY, FELLOW CHURCH MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS**

### **Ephesians 1:15-18**

Because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

**Colossians 1:9-10**

We have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.

**Colossians 4:2-4**

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison — that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-2**

Brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men

**Ephesians 3:16-19**

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 saints, 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.

**Philippians 1:9-12**

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

**1 Thessalonians 3:12-13**

...and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**2 Thessalonians 1:11-12**

To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his

power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2 Thessalonians 3:5**

May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

**Colossians 3:15**

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

**Hebrews 6:11-12**

And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

**CHILDREN**

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. ([Psalm 90:14](#))

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believe...All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. ([2nd Timothy 3:14-17](#))

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. ([John 13:34-35](#))

Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you... 'Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all Flesh. Is anything too hard for me?' ([Jeremiah 32:17, 27](#))

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore me to the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. ([Psalm 51:10-12](#))

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. ([Ephesians 2:10](#))



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him would not perish but have eternal life. ([John 3:16](#))

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock. ([Isaiah 26:3-4](#))

And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you. ([Psalm 9:10](#))

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased! ([Luke 2:14](#))