

Prayer Matters Deeply

I knelt before my son and laid my head down on the floor. He put his hand on my back and began to pray.

“Lord, use my mama. Give her the right words and help these women hear from You.”

It was a commissioning prayer, and there was no doubt in my mind that the Lord leaned down to hear it. It was a sacred moment for both of us. But we didn’t start here, and just like everything that becomes instinctual, prayer was a skill that was cultivated and developed in my children.

If you are like me, you believe deep down that prayer matters. God, our Father, our Creator, our Sustainer, our Provider, Purpose, and Friend, invites us to spend time interacting with Him. I know this ability to come boldly before Him is a privilege and blood-bought right. I've read God's invitation to seek Him about anything that concerns us—and surely anything involves my family, the women I serve, and the programs I steward.

"Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24).

I know we aren't to be anxious when budgets are tight, housework needs to be done, kids are sick, and conflict rages.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:6–7). And I can quote the promise from the Lord that He offers wisdom whenever we need it. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him (James 1:5).

However, I don't want to be a woman with only head knowledge that prayer is a powerful and effective tool; I want it to permeate my very life, being, and home. I really do need Him, and I suspect you do, too. So how can we cultivate a passion to pray inside us and train our children to do the same? May I suggest we begin here . . . just pray.

Of all the words that could be used to describe your ministry of parenting is prayerful at the top of the list?

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