



# Family Connection



24-7 PRAYER FOR REVIVAL  
27 November - 3 December 2023

## Family Connection

Jesus exalts children because they teach us how to become part of His family. Children are dependent and relatively powerless; they teach us to become small so that God's kingdom may become great (Mark 9:34-37).

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**MONDAY: 27 NOVEMBER 2023**  
**BLENDED FAMILY**

**Scripture reading:** 1 Corinthians 13: 1-8

*(Love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Corinthians 13:7).*

Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you through the words of this passage on how to share the love of God with your family daily.

*The wicked are overthrown and are no more, but the house of the righteous will stand. (Proverbs 12:7).*

When members of a **blended family** are subjected to new living conditions and different personalities, it takes some effort to form a connected family unit. Each member must make every effort to promote peace and build one another up so that the family is bonded in love and unity. It takes a while before we are willing to give up some of our 'rights', to do things willingly for one another, and set new values that include everyone.

Father of mercy, we bless newly formed families across the world. Strengthen them in the inner man to make every effort to do what leads to righteousness, peace and joy. Soften their hearts to pray no matter what and to love each other's children without boundaries. Your Word reminds us that we are called to love as God loves.

## TUESDAY: 28 NOVEMBER 2023

### STEPFAMILY

#### Scripture reading: Psalm 34

*Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him!* (Psalm 34:8).

Read the Psalm out loud as a prayer for your family, asking the Lord to reveal His goodness to each member.

*Be anxious for nothing, 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 minds through Christ Jesus.* (Philippians 4:6-7).

**A stepfamily** is formed by the marriage or long-term living together of two individuals, when one or both have at least one child from a previous relationship living part-time or full-time in the household. Children can be full-time or part-time members of a stepfamily and may also be part of two stepfamilies if both parents remarry. Family members of both sides must adapt to many new ways of doing, thinking and saying to ensure a healthy living environment for all of them.

Father to the fatherless, we bless stepfamilies globally. We pray for them to have the courage to build new relationships, an eagerness to adjust to one another's likes, dislikes and the ability to enjoy being a family. Bind them together in the love of Jesus Christ and give them peace that surpasses all understanding. Guard their hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

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## WEDNESDAY: 29 NOVEMBER 2023

### TRADITIONAL FAMILY

#### Scripture reading: Psalm 112

*Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who delights greatly in His commandments.* (Psalm 112:1).

Consider reading this Psalm together as a family, discussing the spiritual benefits that every person reaps who walks in the fear of the Lord. Call on God as a family to help you reverently fear Him.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.* (Colossians 3:16-17).

**Traditional families** consist of two parents (usually married) and their children. These families have one or more children; they may be biological or adopted, but the main idea is that the parents raise their children together in a stable-parent family home. Many of these families have support systems like grandparents and extended family which help them get through challenging situations.

Father of love and mercy, we bless traditional families across the continents. Bless fathers to be strong priests of their households. We ask You to teach these families to abide in Your Word and overcome the wicked one in every trial they may face as a family. We pray for every family member to be salt and light, that they will be loving and gracious and filled with thanksgiving and praise unto You while spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## THURSDAY: 30 NOVEMBER 2023 FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS

### Scripture reading: 1 Peter 3:8 - 22

*Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous... (1 Peter 3:8).*

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you have a godly conduct towards all the members of your household, whether they are committed Believers or not.

*I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. (Psalm 139:14-15).*

Children with emotional, behavioural, or learning challenges are considered to have **special needs**. Families who have children with special needs are faced with their challenges 24-7. To be able to accomplish specific duties, these children require special attention and help. This can leave their parents daily in a negative physical and mental state and exhaustion. Every child is of immeasurable worth in God's eyes and we need to be thankful for every image-bearer of God. He fashions each child with His purposes in mind.

Father our Creator, the Church needs the special needs members so it can function as You designed. Soften our hearts to see it that way and to care for them out of love for You, so that You may receive all the glory and honour. Bless families with special needs children through the Church that shares *everything with them* and serves them with the love of Jesus and caring hearts. We pray that You encourage these parents to advocate for their children on their knees before Your throne of mercy. We ask that You teach them to pray Your Word so that their hearts will align with Your heart and for their prayer lives to deepen.

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## FRIDAY: 1 DECEMBER 2023 MIXED FAMILIES

### Scripture reading: Colossians 1:9-17

*For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding... (Colossians 1:9).*

Use this prayer for each member of your family, taking time to observe what God has said about each one of them. Write down any prophetic word or promise from God regarding them for future prayers and thanksgiving.

*Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings. (Psalm 17:8).*

Families that have children of **mixed race** must raise those kids in an environment filled with undiluted honesty, love and care *in all circumstances*. As the children grow up, they start seeing the differences between them and their family members. Their questions about their culture and background should be handled honestly to prevent them from feeling isolated and ignored because these emotions can lead to confusion and resentment.

Father of endless grace, we bless children of mixed race globally. Bless the parents to speak words fueled by Your Spirit; words that guide and nurture. Help these families to navigate their relationships with truth, honesty, patience and wisdom, following Your divine blueprint. We pray for the parents' eyes to be opened to Your purposes for their children's lives. May those children be used for God's glory among their peers at school or in their neighbourhood.

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## SATURDAY: 2 DECEMBER 2023

### CONFUSED FAMILIES

**Scripture reading:** Colossians 3:12-21

*Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering...* (Colossians 3:12).

Pray for the Christians in your household to adhere to the instructions mentioned in this passage. Ask for an attitude of thanksgiving to God to rule in the hearts of each family member.

*Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!* (Psalm 133:1)

**Newly formed families** sometimes reach a stage when reality sets in and they realise that the dreams they had together of a united family have not materialised. Guilt, jealousy and anger from previous relationships tend to damage new relationships. The children mourn their 'lost' parent and may not have a good relationship with their stepparent. The process of moving to a new family is more complicated than everyone expected. Challenges may seem too difficult to overcome and the temptation to give up is more than often given a thought.

Father of hope, we bless families that have become confused in one way or another and we ask for them to be delivered from lies and the power of darkness. We bless them with peace, hope, understanding for one another, and grace to embrace those things that seem impossible to change. For with men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible. We pray for their love to increase beyond measure, bringing them into the rich revelation of spiritual insight in all things so they will choose the most excellent way of all – becoming pure and without offense until the unveiling of Christ (Philippians 1:9-10).

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## SUNDAY: 3 DECEMBER 2023

### FRUITFUL FAMILIES

**Scripture reading:** John 15:1-17

*"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."* (John 15:5).

In humility speak to Jesus about all the challenges, breakthroughs, and expectations regarding your household. Listen to His words of guidance and instruction and surrender to them with an obedient heart.

*But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them.* (Psalm 103:17-18).

As families **grow and mature**, they eventually realise that there will always be a unique set of family problems that they will have to face and overcome. They understand that they will make mistakes, but that God uses these 'mistakes' to build character and strengthen their family unit. They realise that it takes cooperation from all family members to overcome difficulties and that this process takes time, sometimes even years.

Father of those who are obedient, we bless all families that have grown and matured and become fruitful in Christ globally. We ask that you use them as a source of spiritual growth, healing, and a demonstration of Your love. Bless them as they become a blessing and testimony of hope to others who still struggle to overcome many obstacles regarding their selfish ambitions or lack of unity and/or cooperation in a family context. We pray for those who struggle to seek a deeper understanding of Your plan and purpose with their family. May You receive all the glory due to You.

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