

Prayer Partners

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Truth:78



Dear Partner in Prayer,

Recently, I was encouraged to hear from a 13 year old about the value of having a godly older woman in her life. The young girl explained that it was reassuring to have someone give wise insight, pray with her, and teach biblical truths that she wouldn't be able to understand on her own. A young mom also shared with me how her mentor, an elderly woman who has been a "spiritual mother" to her, calls her weekly from another country to pray and help her apply biblical truths during the intense season of parenting young children.

Then, a family friend came to visit that I had not seen for 20 years. She told me how she had been praying for my salvation since she met me as a child. The Lord, in His faithfulness, answered her prayers. As I look back on my life, some of the most profound ways that God has worked to shape my biblical worldview were the influences of older women and couples who intentionally made time to pray, get to know me, extend hospitality, and model lives that treasure Christ. I long for relationships like this for my own children and the children in my church.

All of these examples remind me of you and your commitment to pray for the next generation. Prayer is such a vital part of what God calls us to as we seek to spiritually mentor the young boys and girls, men and women, growing up in our congregations. Together, we can proclaim with the psalmist: *"Oh give thanks to the LORD for he is good: for his steadfast love endures forever!"* (Psalm 118:1). We can also look to Jesus and His investment in people's lives:

“When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a Shepherd. And he began to teach them many things” (Mark 6:34).
As you think through where God has you in your season of life and the children and students in your sphere of influence, perhaps you could pray for them specifically using the following prayer inspired by Psalm 118 and Mark 6:34:

Almighty God, I praise You because You alone can open the eyes of the blind and change hearts.

I plead with You to raise an army of spiritual parents, grandparents, and mentors for the coming generation.

As Jesus looked at the crowd and had compassion on them, give me a heart that is moved with compassion to pray for the next generation so that they might know and treasure You, Great Shepherd.

In Your faithfulness, provide many opportunities for inter-generational teaching, worship, prayer, and discipleship.

Give men and women, young and old, a zeal to declare Your Truth and pray without ceasing for the next generation.

Help the next generation and children yet to come to know that Your steadfast love endures forever for those who trust in Your name, Jesus.

Cause them to call on You and set them free. Incline their hearts to take refuge in You and be their helper.

Make Your light to shine upon them and enlarge their hearts to give thanks to You and extol You.

Bless them with Your steadfast love and sustain their faith that they might praise Your great name forever, and bring glory to You.

*May You be magnified in our families and churches, forever.
Amen.*

May our hearts be moved with compassion to intercede and nurture the faith of the next generation. Let us look back with thanksgiving at God's faithfulness this summer and look forward to the fall with anticipation for how He will answer as we persevere in prayer.



Thank you for committing to pray for the next generation,

Marcia Olynyk
Board Member, Truth78

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