

Praying for Lost Loved Ones

Ladies Prayer International Newsletter



United Pentecostal Church July 2017

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Praying for Lost Loved Ones

By Shelley Suppan



You are watching your son or daughter make wrong and life-altering decisions. The road they have chosen is one well-traveled, and it's leading them from the sanctity and security of home and a relationship with their heavenly Father straight into the path of spiritual destruction.

Perhaps you go back in time in your mind to earlier years when your child sat on your lap and readily and gladly listened and obeyed. Now, long nights are spent as you ask yourself, "What could I have done differently?" or "What influence should I have kept from them?" These questions no longer bring answers, but instead bring torment.

Words given from you of warning, spoken in love and concern, have been cast to the wind. You can see the ominous storm, blowing them straight into the cliffs. Shipwreck is imminent!

Mercifully, for you, you begin to realize that you have no control over the situation. Your attempts to make them feel guilty haven't and won't work. You must realize that you need to step back. You cannot change a human heart; only God can.

There is hope. Transition from a mindset of negativity to one of faith and expectation. Have faith in God. (See Mark 11:22.)

Don't ever stop praying (1 Thessalonians 5:16); persevere (Luke 18:5); put faith into action (James 2:17). And never, ever, ever given up. Speak it into existence as if it is already so (Proverbs 18:2). Speak life into the seemingly hopeless and spiritually dead situation. By faith, when (fill in the name) is here, we will all be worshiping and shouting in the altars.

Don't let the enemy put guilt upon you. He will try to whisper words of doubt as in, "They aren't coming back" and "it just won't happen." Remember him for the liar he is.

We must remember that the Lord loves us all so very much and He is longing for that relationship again with the prodigal. He continues to seek your children, even when they are not seeking Him.

Keep this in mind as you pray.

- Pray for a hedge around them (Hosea 2:6-7).
- Pray specific prayers.
- Pray for the generational curse to be broken (Exodus 20:5).
- Dedicate them all over again to the Lord (Isaiah 57:18).
- Accept and love them. Don't manipulate or try to do the work of the Holy Spirit.
- Declare the promises of God.
- Find a prayer partner (Galatians 6:2).

Remember you are not alone in this spiritual battle. Ask the Lord for specific Scriptures; take your Bible into your closet of prayer. Jesus wept (John 11:35). Weep for your prodigal.

And finally, keep standing on the front porch, eyes shielded against the sun, on the lookout for the prodigal. They will come home, and what a time of rejoicing there will be!

Note: Shelley Suppan, from Austin, Texas, is married to Bernhard, a native Austrian. She is mom to three beautiful children, Joshua, Savannah, and Sophie, and one amazing daughter-in-law, Lela. Shelley is a pastor's wife, children's ministries director, and is passionate about spreading the gospel. Besides being involved in church and reaching for souls, you can find her experimenting with recipes in the kitchen, reading historical books, and walking outside.

For the Sake of Our Children

By Donna Ten Eyck



Prayer: a meeting place for heaven on earth; a place where the impossible becomes possible.

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

Seeking God diligently in prayer establishes our belief in Who He is, renews hope in the things not yet seen, and finally positions us on the right side of faith.

In spite of opposition, prayer holds on even when it seems there is nothing left to hold to, except for "now faith." "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

Faith allows us to stay connected to the timeline of God's divine plan for our children's future. God wants to work with us to help our children to discover for themselves who they are and where their path will lead.

While recently wrestling about something in prayer and getting nowhere, these words startled me. "Donna, you need to be still and know I am God." Immediately, I went to Psalm 46:10. "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Praying out of desperation, I found myself wrestling with God to get my own way. I was being spirit-driven (single-minded in the outcome) and not spirit-led (united with His outcome). Realizing I was praying against God's will, I began to lay aside the emotional fear of the outcome and allowed God to pray through me. My prayer became one of submission. Thankfully, the Lord so graciously reminded me that He is sovereign in all things.

Before praying, we must be "still" (release, let go) and "know" (recognize He is Sovereign). We surrender preconceived ideas of how God will or should answer and let go, refusing to wrestle with something we cannot change. We recognize God is in control of the plan for His own purpose.

We can be assured God knows the end from the beginning. We will always be successful in praying for our children if we apply what Jesus said: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in

you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).
Why Pray? For the sake of our children!

Note: Donna Ten Eyck is licensed with the United Pentecostal Church International. She serves with the Mississippi Ladies Committee as director of Ladies Prayer International and Ladies Promotions. Donna is also the administrative assistant for the Mississippi Prayer Force and assists Pastor Dobbs and his wife Pam at Word Alive Revival Center in Wiggins, Mississippi.

Me Versus Sleep

by Neil Jamison

It's me versus sleep in the battle this hour.
A test not of strength but one of willpower.
A grand struggle ensues in the depths of my mind.
Should I join in the battle one more time?
My foe begins whispering... Oh how he tries.
To get me to give up with his sweet sounding lies.

"You don't need to pray as much as you need your rest.
Don't worry so much... You'll still be blessed."
His words come forth in many a disguise.
It's tempting at first but then I realized:
If I don't show up the enemy's won.
The battle is lost before it's begun.
So I make up my mind to get in the ring.
I'm ready to pray in service before my Lord and King.

But the enemy is sly and he doesn't give in.
He lets me kneel down but won't let me begin.
The blows come swiftly. First an attack called distraction.
My head is now swimming and I'm not getting into prayer action.
I start thinking about work and kids and housekeeping.
My prayer time has turned into a time of daydreaming.
"Focus!" I shout at myself in my head.
I fend off the attack and start praying instead.

My opponents next move is really so subtle.
I don't even notice until I'm already in trouble.
Oh no what is this that I feel coming on.
I open my mouth and let out a big yawn.
My eyelids grow heavy as I drift off to sleep.
No longer awake my prayer vigil to keep.
By the Lords mercy I'm jolted out of my slumber.
My God is calling my spiritual phone number.

"Oh Lord help me I need you today!
Help me focus and really to pray!"

"Keep me from sleep and distraction and sin!
I've got to fight and battle to win!"
Desperation rises up and the Holy Ghost fire gets going.
Suddenly I'm engaged and the spirit starts flowing.
I repent and give thanks and send up some praise.
I supplicate and intercede and start seeking His ways.

The time flows by swiftly as on my prayer goes.
I'm moving in the spirit as the Holy Ghost flows.
Before I know it my prayer time is done.
It's a daily battle I fight but this time I've won!

Submitted by Geanice Langley, Oregon LM President



From the Mailbox

Dear Sis. Akers,

I would very much like to receive the ladies newsletter in Spanish also, if possible.

My husband and I started a Spanish work 6 years ago in Mexico MO and while I love the letter in English for my self, I would also like to receive it in Spanish to print it off and bless the ladies in our Spanish congregation.

I thank you for the magnificently well written and articulate newsletters every month and for all the work that goes into putting this together. They continually touch my heart, bless and encourage me greatly both in ministry and as praying wife, mom and mimi!

Thank you,
Adriana Camp, Pastor's wife

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From the Editor

God is doing mighty things!



God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in English, Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, Russian, Greek, Arabic, Farsi, Czech/Slovak, Chinese, Swahili, Hungarian, Tagalog, Indonesian, Romanian, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Hindi, Georgian, Japanese, Swedish, Vietnamese and Bangla. Please help us pray for Serbian, Bulgarian and other translators.

If you wish to receive any of the above translations please send request to LadiesPrayerInternational@aol.com and we will be delighted to add you to our mailing list!

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Who we are . . . Since 1999: Ladies Prayer Intl. is made up of women worldwide, who meet on the first Monday of each month to unite in focused prayer for their children and the children of the local church and community.

Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
- That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (I John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
- That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38).



**Ministries we support...
TUPELO CHILDREN'S MANSION**

Children live in an environment with opportunity to grow spiritually, physically and emotionally.

NEW BEGINNINGS Maternity care for birth mothers considering adoption and child placement for adoptive couples.

HAVEN OF HOPE A program for girls ages 13-16 with behavioral and emotional issues.

LIGHTHOUSE RANCH for BOYS Healing broken and hurting lives of teen boys.



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