

# PURSUING RIGHTEOUSNESS IN PRAYER

"Prayer is the key and faith unlocks the door"

*"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."*

Proverbs 22: 6 NIV

## FATHERS TEACH THEM TO PRAY

Over the past several weeks, I have noticed something amazing occurring during our altar prayer time. I have noticed that several young children, even babies, are being brought to the altar by their parents, to request prayers and dedications for them. Now this in itself is great and occurs rather frequently. The amazing thing that I'm seeing is that children are being brought to the altar by their fathers; and most are young fathers. Yes, it is true that for many years, actually many generations, mothers have typically been the ones making their way to the altar with Junior in her arms and little Johnny in tow. Dad in most cases might follow slowly or quite often not at all because of his absence. What's happening now? Are we finally seeing men return to action in their responsibilities as family leaders? Is the word of God making its way beyond our ears into our hearts and causing us to question the future for our children? Perhaps, we now understand our focus scripture "train a child in the way he should go." This mandate falls first on the God chosen head of the family, then to the nurturer of the family. Well, for what ever reason, I think it's wonderful and simply amazing.

I pray this is an awakening trend and it will continue to prompt other men to bring their children to the altar for prayer. In times like these, the more men bring their children to the altar, the more children will come to the saving grace of Christ in prayer. The more our children come and pray at the altar, the safer our schools and parks become. The safer our areas of education and recreation, the better we are as a people. Our children should learn the importance of prayer by observing and participating in its practice with their own personal hero, dad.

Now don't misunderstand this message. I am not discounting, overshadowing or putting down the contributions women make to the prayer life of our children. By all means I celebrate and rejoice over what a wife, mother, sister or aunt imparts in prayer. I am a direct product of a praying mother. I know the value of the role women have played in our churches history. However, this is not about the journey; it's about the goal. The goal is that of Kingdom building. Christ is soon to return for His Church. What type of church will He find when He returns? Do you hear God calling men to return to action? Have we sat on the side lines long enough? Join me in celebrating the young men that has answered God's call. Pray fervently that men will stand and stand firm. Stand, with their feet deeply rooted in the Word of God. Stand, seeking diligently the assurance of God's will. Stand battle ready, settling for nothing less than Gods very best for our families. Stand counting God's blessings and not waiting for miracles. Fathers, teach them to pray and when they are old they will not depart from it.

((A church that prays together, grows in faith together))

L e t u s p r a y

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