

Praying for Your Prodigal

Recently, the Holy Spirit flooded me with reminders of God's promises regarding my son. God is faithful to prompt me to pray for him or prompt other friends or family to pray for him. Sometimes I receive calls from friends that ask me about my son because the Holy Spirit has on more than one occasion impressed them to pray for him. During one season, I had not heard from him for over 2 years. God has sometimes used dreams to encourage me. One dream was *that my children were on a wilderness expedition and had become lost. Search parties were busy looking for them. I then received a phone call that they had been found, were safe, and on their way home.* I knew that this had to do with my son.

What a compassionate Heavenly Father we have that encourages and assures our hearts and gives us His peace! I would like to share some scripture prayer with you. You may be very familiar with these scriptures, but perhaps the Holy Spirit will give you new encouragement and assurance while you are waiting for your prodigal to return.

Our wonderful, loving, Heavenly Father,

We stand amazed at Your compassion and love for us when we were yet sinners. You knew us when we were yet in our mother's womb, and had a purpose for each of us – to be conformed to the image of Your Son. You have given us the opportunity to know You and be saved from our sins through the ultimate sacrifice of Your sinless and only Son Jesus taking our sins upon Himself. We thank You and Your obedient Son Jesus Christ!

We consider the compassion of Jesus as He saw a mother weeping because her only son was being carried to his grave (Luke 7:11-15). You are the One who spoke comfort to a mother's heart and said, "weep not", and then spoke "Young man, I say to thee, Arise." You are the same God that brought that son to life again and presented him to his mother, Who comforts our hearts and will speak life to our son, our daughter.

We thank You for faith that by believing You and Your Word, we shall be as those of Hebrews 11:35, "women received their dead raised to life again...." We are reminded of the widow of Zarephath (I Kings 17:17-24) and her miracle. You hearkened to Your prophet Elijah and restored life to the widow's son. Where is the God of Elijah? You are here! You are restoring the life of our children. Elisha knew that You are the same yesterday, today, and forever; that You are no respecter of persons. He saw a mother's faith answer his question "...is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well." Even though, she had laid his lifeless body on the bed of the prophet, she trusted and said, "It is well" (II Kings 4:18-37). Father, we do believe that it is well with our children because with You nothing is impossible. You are the God of all flesh. Your Word will perform what You have sent it to do in the lives of our children.

Thank you, Father, for Your wonderful promise spoken through Your Son Jesus in John 5:25. **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.”** We remember the weeping of the children of Israel for their departed children and refusing to be comforted (Jer. 31:15-17). But You speak to our hearts and say, “...Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy. And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border.” Even now, we speak to our souls and say, “hear the word of the LORD, and let hope arise, for our children shall come again.”

We love Your Word, Father, and certainly the parable of the lost son (Luke 15:11-32), stirs hope in us anew. There is no where that they can go and Your Presence is not there (Ps.139). We thank You, that You are ever watching for our son/daughter, and that You never grow weary. We thank You, that with Your grace we will not grow weary and we believe for the day when we will say with You, “For this my son/daughter was dead, and is alive again; he/she was lost, and is found.” We celebrate with joy Your promise now and believe for the day when we will celebrate with our son/daughter together. Thank You. In name of Your most precious Son, Jesus Christ. So be it!



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