

Message Notes

May 7, 2023

*Parent Yourself First
Praying With & For Our Kids
1 Chronicles 29:19; Phil 4:6
Pastor Jeff Nelsen*

- Learning to parent & pray can double our sense of _____.
- Prayer isn't a way to _____ God, our circumstances or our our kids.

God knew what He was doing from the very beginning.
He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who
love Him along the same lines as the life of his Son. Romans 8:29 MSG

Why Is Prayer Important In Parenting?

- Parenting is a _____ God _____ to us. 1 Chron 29:11,14,19
- Parenting is a _____ - _____ to make us like Jesus. Isaiah 64:8
- As we let God _____ us, our kids _____ what following Jesus looks like.

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Philippians 4:6
Pray without ceasing. Pray continually. Pray all the time. 1 Thessalonians 5:17
In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths. Prov 3:6

Learning To Pray With And For Our Kids

- We parent ourselves first by deepening _____ w/God.
- Invite kids to pray with you at _____, _____ & _____ times.
- Turn your _____ into _____ to God.
- _____ all kinds of prayers for them, God will teach you to pray.
- Pray by releasing _____ & holding on to God's _____.

Trust in Him at all times. Pour out your hearts to Him.
For God is a refuge for us. Psalm 62:8

- Do _____ children know the gift of my _____ for them?

Praying All Kinds Of Prayers

Pray...on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. Ephesians 6:18

- A**cknowledge the LORD & praise His character qualities.
- C**onfess your sins & shortcomings as honestly as you can.
- T**hank Him specifically for His mercies, kindnesses & gifts.
- S**eek His provision and help, make your requests to the LORD.
- S**ubmit your heart to Him so He can lead & guide you.

Come as you are.

Be yourself with God.

Pour out your heart to Him.

Don't be afraid to pray short phrases.

Sometimes all we can do is cry out to God.

Don't be afraid to ask God for the smallest things.

Pray when things are going well, and when you're in trouble.
Instead of "LORD, change them," pray, "LORD, change me."

The prayer of relinquishment (where we let go of control and give our loved ones back to God) is powerful and like Jesus prayed.

*"Father, if You are willing, take this cup from Me;
yet not My will, but Yours be done." Luke 22:42*