

STRONGER AND STRONGER

Which is true? A child who lives by prayer is 3 times as likely to succeed as an average child, 30 times as likely, 300 times as likely OR 3,000 times as likely. The correct answer is nearly 3,500 times as likely to succeed as an average child. The actual statistics are taken from a little book: "Who's in Who's Who?" and are based largely on income but also on general level of satisfaction, happy marriage etc. The point is that children who are helped to take prayer seriously are happier as are their families.

Most of us are prayer wimps. We avoid faith lifting exercises and have no idea how to move a feather let alone a mountain. (Please believe that more often than not I do include myself in this group.) Since we are often poorly equipped to teach our children to pray the only hope is to ask God to be the teacher. The following prayers are guaranteed to get you your very own personal trainer... straight from heaven. Pray them with your child one sentence at a time or put this article on the refrigerator.

God help me to see who you really are, a kind God leaning forward over the edge of heaven looking for ways to keep people safe and protect us from sin. Trusting you is not easy for me God. I know it is people who do selfish things and Satan who loves evil. So help me not to doubt you? Help me see you Father as the fixer: giving love for hate, forgiveness for sin, health for sickness and most of all comfort for fear. **Guide my prayer Lord...help me overcome by doubts.**

Jesus help me pray in your name. I know you have many names healer, savior, deliverer etc. but for sure your name is LOVE because God is Love. Help me to pray always with love. I know you can help because you are a living God. Let your Holy Spirit come into my heart and guide

each prayer so that it truly is a prayer of love. But when I am not sure of your presence Lord and I have no love in my heart help me pray anyway because I know you are the God who can change my heart and fill it with your love. **Guide my prayer Lord...by your love.**

Father help me to recognize the sound of your voice. The only hope any of us have is listening to you. Help me pray and pray and listen and listen until I really do hear, UNTIL *I know it is you.* This week I will not stop praying until you speak to me. **Guide my prayer Lord...and help me listen better.**

Holy Spirit show me when my heart is not pure. Remind me of the people I have been angry with so I can *forgive* them and of my sins so I can *repent*. Help me pray *thank you* prayers. And father help me not to be selfish. Bring to my mind the faces and problems of other people so I can pray for them...at least one person each day. Thank you Holy Spirit for chasing the darkness out of my heart and making it your home. **Guide my prayer Lord...and clean my heart.**

Jesus I know the Bible is your book bit sometimes it makes me feel like I will never understand or get it right. Help me take it a tiny bit at a time and then help me understand how that little bit is good for me. Help me choose the verses that I should use when I pray. Remind me to decorate my room with those verses. It is like a puzzle God. I can't pray without the Bible and the Bible doesn't make sense if I don't pray. Help me solve the puzzle God. Help me choose one Bible verse a week and pray and pray and pray about it until God makes it real. **Guide my prayer Lord ...by your word.**

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