

## Lydia Prayer Suggestions #7

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As always, before entering into prayer, ask God to purge your heart and conscience. Pray a prayer of repentance over your life asking God to put His finger on anything that should not be there; renounce it and remove it, then move on.

Ask God to renew your mind and align your faith with God's Word.

Ask God to reveal to you every time you have a discontented or complaining spirit. Resolve to renounce that selfish attitude and replace it with spoken words of gratitude. If you are saying those complaining words to other persons and infecting their mind, you owe them an apology, but be aware that an apology cannot take away the infection of negative comments. Ask God to guard your tongue and help you realize that you do not have to voice every opinion. Perhaps you need to ask Him to cleanse your heart in this area. Read James 4.

Bring your petitions to God for your family, your church, and your community.

### **Pray for the church of the future:**

- Pray that parents will be good examples and that they will be guided in their decisions about children's education, friends, entertainment, spiritual development, and discipline.
- Pray for protection for children and teens from being misled by peer pressure and the world's opinions and temptations.
- Pray that Christian teachers will be encouraged and strengthened for their important work.
- Pray for all who minister to children, students, and families.

The following quotations are from the book *31 Days of Prayer* by Ruth and Warren Myers:

*"Guardians of the Young.* Select and pray for a few organizations that work with children, young people, and students. Pray that God will thwart influences of our age that especially concern you—drugs, pornography, sexual permissiveness and abuse, damaging music, negative influences through the media and through some school districts and colleges." Page 105

*"The Language of a Parent's Longing.* Amy Carmichael founded the Donhavur Fellowship in India for desperately needy children. She wrote a touching prayer for her many children beseeching the Father to bring them safely through life's troubled waters. 'Read the language of our longing...Holy Father, for our children,' she pleaded. 'And wherever they may bide, bring them Home at eventide.' In a similar vein, Lamentations 2:19 says, 'Arise, cry out in the night...pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord... for the lives of your children' (NIV)." Pages 105-106

"Build your personal collection of Bible verses to use in prayer for young people. As a start, meditate on the following and apply them to the children and teenagers you pray for: Luke 2:52; Psalm 90:14, 16; 119:9-11, 18; 143:8-10. and let God use Isaiah 49:25 to urge you to pray for children in these troubled and perilous times." Page 106.

Extend these prayer ideas to the children of world areas for which you are praying. Apply them to children you see in the news, at the mall, in your neighborhood, and around the world.

Pray for political leaders in your community, state, and nation that they will make and uphold laws protecting youth. Especially target people groups and organizations that influence children.

*31 Days of Prayer* by Ruth and Warren Myers is a powerful book of prayers. These prayers would be especially helpful for those in your group who may be shy about praying aloud.