

## July – Praying for Your Family

- Week 1 – Family Unit
- Week 2 – Fathers
- Week 3 – Kids
- Week 4 – Broken Homes
- Week 5 – Mothers

Families are the building blocks of society and the church. We cannot afford to sit idly by and allow Satan to destroy our families.

When Sanballat heard that Nehemiah was building the walls of Jerusalem, he was filled with great wrath and conspired to fight against him. Today when we seek to build godly homes, the enemy continually seeks to hinder. Our only hope is to follow Nehemiah's example: "Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God and set a watch against them day and night" (Nehemiah 4:9). The determined Israelites held in one hand a tool with which to build and in the other hand a weapon to fight the enemy.

Only vigilant, intercessory prayer and spiritual warfare will lead us to victory for our families. Let us take courage from Nehemiah's advice: "Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great . . . and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses . . . our God shall fight for us" (Nehemiah 4:14, 20).

### Week 1 – Family Unit

We must be vigilant and pray for our families to be protected from evil and to be a place of safety. As Nehemiah built the walls of Jerusalem, so can we build walls of prayer and faith around our families.

- Pray that parents would have the wisdom to recognize their children's sensitivity and guide them.
- Pray that the parents would have the wisdom to discipline their children properly (Ephesians 6:4).
- Pray that the children would receive the discipline as an act of love (Hebrews 12:5-8).
- Pray that families would love and respect one another.
- Pray that families would form close and loving relationships.

### Week 2 – Fathers

Pray Fathers:

- will be spiritual leaders in their homes (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). It is difficult for a woman and children to find their proper place in the divine scheme for the family when the father is out of his place. He is designed to be the spiritual head of the family.

- love and devotion to God and his steadfast faithfulness will set the example for his family to follow.
- will love their wives as Christ loved the church (Ephesians 5:25)
- raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4)
- will teach their children is to fear the Lord and to walk humbly before Him.
- would teach Christian principles to their children by precept and example.

### Week 3 – Kids

Pray Kids will:

- become sensitive and responsive to God at an early age (I Samuel 3:1-14).
- that they would keep their hearts attuned to God.
- heed their parents' godly teaching and example (Proverbs 1:8).
- be more swayed by the example of their godly parents and the teachings of the Word of God than by peer pressure or worldly environment.
- be obedient to parents (Ephesians 6:1).
- grow mentally, physically and spiritually.

### Week 4 – Broken Homes

Pray for:

- a transformation of the pain and agony of broken homes into forgiveness and mutual understanding.
- emotional healing.
- those who are bitter and need help to be surrounded by God's healing love.
- children whose lives have been scarred by family break-up because of death, separation or divorce.
- healing of deep wounds and that God would surround them with His fatherly love, that they would feel secure once more and learn to love others without fear.

### Week 5 – Mothers

Pray mothers will:

- seek God and love His word supremely (Matthew 6:33).
- love for the Word would keep her thoughts pure and holy.
- be subject to their husbands as unto the Lord (Ephesians 5:24).
- have a godly respect for her husband.
- teach their children to have faith in God (II Timothy 1:5).