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## PRAYER FOR FAMILY

O Lord, a community of brothers and sisters has grown up around us. They are gifts from Thee and surround us at Thy request, indeed, Thou hast placed us together for our own development. Though our family can know great pain, great suffering and great joy, it reflects a spark at Thy image and it is here that we learn how to love, how to care, how to confess, ask for forgiveness, and how to bear the burden of a neighbor. It seems that our very lives are shaped by our families and yet many families are distorted, tearing the very souls from their numbers. Lord, teach us to look to Thee for our strength that we might in turn breathe life into our families. *Amen*



Almighty God, who prepared a home for Thy children in the world, may Thy law of loving kindness prevail throughout our land. Help us to maintain a cheerful and charitable disposition, in spite of deceit, ungratefulness, or betrayal of trust. Help us retain faith in our fellow men. Teach us to live in peace and harmony with our neighbors. Remind us no strength is known but the strength of love, and that nations may find security not in force but in that "perfect" love which casteth out fear and in that fellowship revealed to us by Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen*