

## PRAYER FOR MY CHILDREN

Lord, I have lived my three score and ten and I am neither proud nor am I displeased with my stewardship. Yes, there are certain moments which I would reclaim if I could, but those are past and there are other moments which give me great pleasure.

I know now the importance of children. Thou gave me time to spend with them. I must confess I was far too stingy with that time, keeping much of it for myself. For that I request forgiveness. There were also times when I was with them physically and absent emotionally. For that also I request forgiveness and mercy.

I thank Thee for the lessons Thou hast taught me through my children. They taught me to laugh, the deep joy of sacrifice, and the freshness of honesty. As I looked deep into their eyes year after year I was able to see myself reflected in their attitudes and their emotions. I must confess that what I often saw disturbed me deeply and I changed. For that I am eternally grateful.

Now that they are grown I have more time to serve them, but their time seems so rushed. Perhaps once again Thou art asking me to use my time well. Shall I pray, Lord, for my child who is troubled? Or shall I simply sit with a grandchild letting them know they are just about the most important thing in the world? Shall I be there and lend a hand when the pressures of life seem to overwhelm my children? Shall I simply live out my faith as an act of worship to Thee as a pathfinder for those who are following in my footsteps?

I thank Thee, Lord, for allowing me to nurture and care for them even now, for they are Thy children. *Amen*