



PRAYING for PRODIGALS

Before You Pray

Never underestimate the power of persistent intercession.

Some prodigals come home quickly.

Others come home after years of prayer, tears, and spiritual warfare.

Do not mistake delay for denial.

Conviction often works invisibly before it manifests visibly.

Remember:

You are not trying to argue somebody into the kingdom.

You are asking God to do what only He can do:

Open blinded eyes.

Break deception.

Awaken conscience.

Restore hunger.

And bring the wandering home.

The Bible says:

“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” — James 5:16

When you pray the Word of God, you are praying the will of God.





1. PRAY FOR GOD TO DRAW THEM

Scripture

“The Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.” — Luke 9:56

“Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west.” — Isaiah 43:5

Prayer

“Lord Jesus, You came to save — not destroy. I pray that Your mercy would begin pursuing _____ even now. Reach where I cannot reach. Go where I cannot go. Let conviction follow them. Interrupt darkness. Let Your voice become louder than every other voice speaking into their life. Gather them back from every far country spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically.”

2. PRAY FOR HOLY DISCONTENT

Scripture

“There arose a mighty famine in that land.” — Luke 15:14

Prayer

“Lord, let there be famine in the far country. Dry up anything that is keeping _____ comfortable away from You. Let sin lose its pleasure. Let compromise lose its satisfaction. Let the things they once ran to begin to feel empty and barren. If there is anything replacing You in their life, let it fail them until they realize only You can satisfy their soul.”





3. PRAY THEY WOULD ‘COME TO THEMSELVES’

Scripture

“And when he came to himself...” — Luke 15:17

“To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light.” — Acts 26:18

Prayer

God, awaken their mind and spirit. Break deception. Let clarity come. Open their eyes to where they are and what sin is doing to them. Remove delusion and spiritual blindness. Let them remember what it felt like to be in Your presence. Let holy memory begin pulling them back toward home.”

4. PRAY FOR REPENTANCE

Scripture

“I will arise and go to my father.” — Luke 15:18

“Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings.” — Jeremiah 3:22

Prayer

Lord, give _____ a spirit of genuine repentance. Not just emotion — but turning. Let them become sick of the pigpen. Let brokenness produce surrender. Give them courage to arise and come home. Remind them that Your mercy is still available and Your arms are still open.”





5. PRAY AGAINST SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS

Scripture

“The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not.” — 2 Corinthians 4:4

Prayer

In the name of Jesus, I pray against spiritual blindness. Let the light of the gospel shine into the heart of _____. Expose lies. Tear down strongholds. Break confusion and deception. Let truth become unmistakably clear.”

6. PRAY FOR THEIR LOVE FOR GOD TO RETURN

Scripture

“Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.” — Revelation 2:4

Prayer

Lord, rekindle what once burned in them. Bring back tenderness toward Your presence. Restore love for truth, worship, prayer, holiness, and the house of God. Let the fire they once carried begin to burn again.”





7. PRAY FOR DELIVERANCE FROM WORLDLY ATTACHMENTS

Scripture

“**Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world.**” — 2 Timothy 4:10

Prayer

God, break unhealthy attachments and ungodly influences. Remove relationships, desires, habits, and appetites that are pulling _____ away from You. Let the grip of the world loosen from their life. Replace worldly affection with hunger for spiritual things.”

8. PRAY FOR A SOFTENED HEART

Scripture

“**Lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.**” — Hebrews 3:13

Prayer

Lord, do not let their heart become hardened. Let conviction remain alive. Even when they resist You outwardly, keep speaking inwardly. Preserve sensitivity in their spirit. Do not let sin completely numb their conscience.”





9. PRAY FOR RESTORATION — NOT JUST SURVIVAL

Scripture

“Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.” — Psalm 51:12

Prayer

Lord, when _____ returns, do more than rescue them. Restore them. Heal what sin damaged. Heal shame, bitterness, addiction, fear, confusion, and condemnation. Restore joy. Restore purity. Restore purpose. Restore spiritual confidence.”

10. PRAY FOR GODLY SHEPHERDS & CONNECTION

Scripture

“I will give you pastors according to mine heart.” — Jeremiah 3:15

Prayer

Lord, reconnect _____ with spiritual voices that will speak truth in love. Put godly people around them. Give them shepherds who will help guide them, disciple them, and walk with them through restoration.”





11. PRAY THE CHURCH WILL RECEIVE PRODIGALS WELL

Scripture

“This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.” —
Luke 15:24

Prayer

God, prepare Your church to receive prodigals with wisdom, truth, compassion, and restoration. Remove judgmental attitudes. Let us never become the elder brother. Help us rejoice over restoration more than we criticize failure.”

12. PRAY PSALM 51 OVER THEM

Scripture

Psalms 51

Prayer

“Have mercy, O God, according to Your lovingkindness. Wash _____ thoroughly from sin and cleanse them from iniquity. Create in them a clean heart and renew a right spirit within them. Do not cast them from Your presence. Restore the joy of salvation and let their life once again bring glory to Your name.”





13. PRAY THE PROMISE OVER YOUR CHILDREN

Scripture

“The promise is unto you, and to your children.” — Acts 2:39

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” — Proverbs 22:6

Prayer

Lord, I stand upon Your promises concerning my family. I believe Your Word is greater than rebellion, greater than addiction, greater than confusion, and greater than distance. I ask You to fulfill Your promise over my children and my household.”

14. PRAY WITH PERSISTENCE

Scripture

“I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.” — Genesis 32:26

Prayer

Lord, I refuse to quit praying. Even when I do not see immediate results, I will continue interceding. I believe You are still working. I believe conviction is still moving. I believe mercy is still reaching. And I believe You are still able to bring prodigals home.”





FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT

Do not let the silence discourage you.

A seed underground can appear lifeless while it is actually preparing for breakthrough.

The Father in Luke 15 kept looking down the road because love expects return.

Keep praying.

Keep believing.

Keep watching the road.

Because God still knows how to bring prodigals home.

