

WANT YOUR PARENTS TO CHANGE?



Do you sometimes wish your parents would understand you better, listen more carefully, or change the way they respond to you? Many young people feel this way. But instead of only becoming frustrated, you can bring your parents before God in prayer. Prayer changes hearts, situations, and even the way we see people. As you pray for your parents, also ask God to shape your own heart with love, patience and wisdom.

1. Pray with a thankful heart

Your parents are not perfect. Whether they are often at home or not, whether they are divorced, separated, struggling, or doing their best in difficult circumstances, they are still your parents. Ask God to help you accept them with grace. Thank Him for the privilege of having parents. Ask forgiveness for the times you wished they were different, absent, or out of your life because of something they did or failed to do.

Pray that God will open your eyes to see the good things they do, even if those things are sometimes easy to overlook. Ask the Lord to help you see their needs and to give you wisdom in how to pray for them.

2. Pray for your response to them

Pray that God will help your parents understand your needs. Ask Him to give them the desire, time and ability to spend meaningful time with you.

Also pray for your own heart. When your parents reach out to you, remember that it may be God answering your prayer. Do not give them the cold shoulder. Ask God to help you respond with openness, respect and patience.

3. Pray for their work/career

Economic circumstances have changed the world of work for many parents. They may be carrying pressures that you do not always see or understand.

Pray that God will help them handle the difficult situations they face at work. Ask Him to strengthen them so they are not completely exhausted when they come home. Pray that they will have favour with their superiors, good working conditions and fair payment.

If they own a business, pray that God will give them peace, wisdom and integrity in their work. Pray that they will not chase money to such an extent that they neglect their family, but that they will still make time to enjoy family life and the good things God gives.

4. Pray for their marriage

Look carefully and prayerfully at the things your parents may be struggling with in their marriage. Begin writing some of these things down and bring them before God in prayer.

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how to pray with wisdom, love and compassion. Pray about the things that cause heartache, misunderstanding, tension, or pain. Ask God to bring healing, forgiveness, patience and renewed love into their relationship.

5. Pray for their responsibilities as parents

Ask the Lord to help you honour their authority and accept their discipline with the right heart. Pray that God will give them wisdom to guide you, teach you, protect you and help you grow into maturity.

Pray that they will take up their roles as father and mother with love, strength and humility. Ask God to help them live godly lives and to show compassion to the poor and needy.

6. Pray for the way they treat you

Pray that your parents will be patient with you and ask God to help you be patient with them as well. Remember that they are also human and will make mistakes.

Do not judge them harshly. Ask God to help you love them, even when things are difficult. Pray that the Father will give them wisdom and understanding to recognise your needs and desires. Ask Him to help them make time for you, be available to you, guide you and love you well.

Praying for your parents does not mean everything will change overnight, but it opens the door for God to work in their lives, in your family and in your own heart. Keep praying with faith, respect and perseverance. Ask God to help you notice even small changes and to respond with grace. Your prayers matter and God can use them to bring healing, understanding and love into your home.