

A Parent's Prayer **With General Douglas McArthur**

PSALM 127:3-5

3 Behold, children are a heritage from The Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.

5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them...¹

MATTHEW 19:13-14

13 Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them.

14 But JESUS said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is The Kingdom of Heaven."²

A Prayer – by General Douglas MacArthur³

Build me children, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when they are weak, and brave enough to face themselves when they are afraid; ones who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory!

Build me children whose wishbones will not be where their backbones should be; children who will know Thee and that to know themselves is the foundation stone of knowledge. Lead them, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let them learn to stand up in the storm; here let them learn compassion for those who fail!

Build me children whose hearts will be clean, whose goals will be high; children who will master themselves before they seeks to master others; ones who will learn to laugh, yet never forget how to weep; ones who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past!

And after all these things are theirs, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that they may always be serious, yet never take themselves too seriously. Give them humility, so that they may always remember the simplicity of greatness, the open mind of true wisdom and the meekness of true strength!

Then I, their parent, will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain!"⁴

¹ New King James Version Bible, PSALM 127:3-5

² New King James Version Bible, MATTHEW 19:13-14.

³ "Douglas MacArthur (26 January 1880 – 5 April 1964) was an American Five-star rank General and Field Marshal of the Philippine Army... during World War II... He officially accepted Japan's surrender on 2 September 1945, and oversaw the occupation of Japan from 1945 to 1951... He led the United Nations Command in the Korean War until he was removed from command by President Harry S. Truman on 11 April 1951." Turn Back to GOD. Retrieved 8/14/2014. <http://www.turnbacktogo.com/a-father-prayer-by-general-douglas-macarthur/>.

⁴ Adapted from "A Father's Prayer" by General Douglas MacArthur. 1952. (1880 – 1964) Third Option Men. Retrieved 8/14/2014. <http://www.thirdoptionmen.org/blog/fathers-prayer/>.