

## 「 Introduction 」

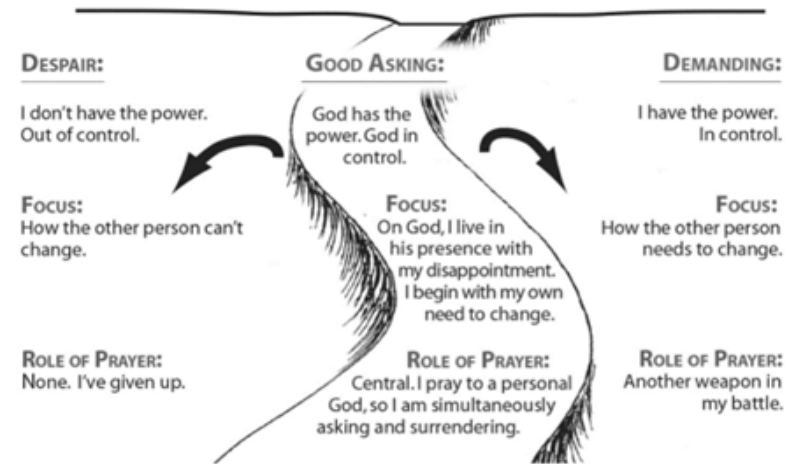
Raising children is a difficult task. If it was meant to be easy, this relationship wouldn't start with labor pain. Children are great teachers of prayer. Child rearing teaches us to pray. Parenting often comes with feeling utterly helpless.

For the family month of May, we will be learning how to pray for our children. You may also use this material to pray for your spouse or parents. May this family month be a time of showing gratitude to our parents and blessing our children.

## 「 Going Deeper 」

### (1) Demanding parents, passive parents

It is surprising how seldom books on parenting talk about prayer. We instinctively believe that if we have the right biblical principles and apply them consistently, our kids will turn out right. However, raising children in faith is not something we can be too confident about. Many parents are initially confident we can change our child. We don't surrender to our child's will (which is good), but we try to dominate the child with our own (which is bad). Without realizing it, we become demanding. Increasingly, parents in our culture are moving to the opposite extreme and becoming passive. Parents say things like "My son has always been angry" or "Even when he was a kid, he was throwing temper tantrums." This passivity can in turn cause worse behaviors in the child. Until you are convinced that you can't change your child's heart, you will not take prayer seriously.



**[Share]** Were your parents passive? Demanding? What type of parent are you? Which side are your prayers inclining toward?

### (2) Watch God's story unfold

One word summarizes our prayers for Emily: faith. We wanted her to abide in God. When our daughter is going through a difficult time we often say, "We are thankful Emily has this low-level suffering while she is still on our watch. It is a wonderful opportunity for her to grow in faith." Because we were praying thoughtfully for Emily, we could see God's larger picture weaving in and through her disappointments. God permitted mild pain in her life in order to grow her soul into his. We've given up on our ability to change other people. Instead, we cling to God and watch him weave his story. Frankly, we do our best parenting by prayer.

#### **Hebrews 12:2**

*"Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."*

**[Meditate]** The heavenly Father loves our children more than we do. We might be ready to die for them, but God actually died for them. In whose picture do you want your child(ren) to grow? What must you surrender?

**[Share]** What battles/suffering are your child(ren) currently going through in faith? (only share what you can)

### (3) The Image of God

Parents are the images of God on earth. Children learn about their heavenly Father through their earthly fathers. And children learn about the caring and loving Church through their earthly mothers. God delights in working through parents in passing down, preserving, and spreading the faith to the next generation. No pretense, hypocrisy, or flattery does good for the family. It is through parents who have the character and love of Jesus that our children will learn to fear God. Another point to remember is this. No parents are ever flawless. It is not perfection that our children seek, but honesty and sincerity.

*\*Have you heard about the G2G One to One Discipleship?*

부모가 자녀에게  
G2G(Generation to Generation) 일대일 제자양육

**자녀 일대일 제자양육**

“한 아이를 주님의 제자로”

당신의 자녀는  
하나님께서 맡기신  
일대일 동반자입니다

자녀를 위한 일대일 제자양육

부모가 자녀가 신앙 안에서  
함께 교제하고 성장하는 기쁨  
열세번의 만남을 통해 자녀의  
믿음의 기초를 세우고  
흔들림 없는 삶을 살게 하는  
**성경적 제자양육**

**[Closing prayer]** Pray for your child(ren) using the prayer topics below.

## 10 Prayer for the Next Generation

1. May they be a generation growing in the covenant.
2. May they be a generation that prepares the way of the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. May they receive the blessing of coming to meet Jesus personally and intimately.
4. May they be a generation that is obedient to the authority of the Word.
5. May the family be like a refuge for our children, and may there be peace in their relationships with parents and siblings.
6. May You guide them to meet good friends and teachers in their schools and in the world, and bless the relationships with every one of their peers.
7. May You help them to hate the sins of lust, and may they be a generation that knows the joy that comes from purity and holiness.
8. May they stand firm in their biblical identity and be set apart as children of God in all that they eat, wherever they go, and in whatever they do.
9. May You lead them to know the gifts and talents You have given them and guide each of their paths to stand boldly against the world.
10. May You bless Chodae's Education Department so that the next generation may grow strongly in the church.

*Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place ... My eyes and my heart will be there for all time (2 Chron. 7:15-16)*