

## Steps To Freedom In Christ (0 - 4 years)

Please ensure that you have read through the introductory notes and have found your own Freedom in Christ before leading a child through these steps. There are also special renunciations which you may need to download before you begin.

Since children this age cannot read, the parent has to assume responsibility for them and exercise their authority in Christ. Children at this age can understand the love and power of Jesus in their lives, however. Their child-like faith will be an encouragement to you as you pray for them, and what they learn in your prayers may lead them to put their trust in Christ. This is the only time we encourage you to place your hands on your children if they will allow you, and pray for them.

After I finished a conference, a pastor shared with me how he was finally able to help his three year old daughter. She was waking up every night terrified, and complaining that something was in her room. They initially did what most parents would do. They went with her to the room and declared that there was nothing there after looking in the wardrobe and under the bed. This had been going on for three months. The child hadn't seen any bad movies, or lived long enough to commit any major sins.

During the week of the conference, the parents began to understand what was going on. Friday evening they sat down with her and explained that she had Jesus in her heart (she had trusted in Christ at an early age), and because Jesus was in her heart she could tell whatever was in her room to leave because Jesus was bigger than they were. She didn't come into their room that night, and the next morning she proclaimed boldly, "They came into my room last night, and I told them to get out in Jesus' name, and they left!"

A veteran missionary was attending my class at seminary and shared that his child had been having night time visitations. They personally confessed all their sins and then laid their hands on their child and commanded Satan to leave their child in the name of Jesus. The nightmares ended.

You can adapt for your child any of the prayers in the other Steps to Freedom for children, or you can pray something like the following:

Dear Heavenly Father, I bring my child (name) before you. I declare myself and my family to be under Your authority. I acknowledge my dependency upon You, for apart from Christ I can do nothing. I ask for Your protection during this time of prayer. I assume my responsibility for all that You have entrusted to me, and I now commit my life, my marriage, and my family to You. I declare my child to be eternally signed over to the Lord



Jesus Christ. Since I am in Christ, and seated with Him in the heavenlies, I take authority over the enemy by renouncing any and all assignments that Satan has on my child (name). I accept only the will of God for myself and my family. I now command Satan and all his demons to leave my child (name). I ask for a hedge of protection around him/her and my home. I submit myself to You and ask You to fill me with Your Holy Spirit, and I dedicate myself and my child (name) as temples of the living God. I ask this in the precious name of Jesus, my Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Our children are precious gifts from God. Let's do everything we can to protect them from the god of this world. We can do that by being the parents that He wants us to be, by surrounding them with a Christ-centred home, and by lifting them up in prayer. How do we pray specificay for our children? Below is a good daily prayer but you can also download 'Praying for your Children' from the Freedom in Christ UK website.

## **Daily Prayer:**

Dear Heavenly Father, I ask that (name) may be filled with the knowledge of your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding so that they may walk in a manner worthy of Your name. May he/she please you in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increase in the knowledge of You. I pray that (name) be strengthened with all power according to your glorious might so that he/she may be steadfast and patient. I ask, Heavenly Father, that (name) would see your mighty work and joyfully give thanks to You who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints. (Col 1:9-12) I pray that (name) will continue to grow in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and others (Luke 2:52) In Jesus' precious name I pray, Amen.