

Prayers for a Troubled Child

Inspired by Monica, St. Augustine's Mother

A 10-Day Prayer Program

INTRODUCTION

There is no prayer more persistent than that of a mother with a burdened heart. When a child strays, whether from moral values, faith, or purpose, it pierces a mother's soul. Yet, hope is never lost, for God is always at work, even when we cannot see it.

The story of St. Monica, mother of St. Augustine, reminds us that heaven hears prayers soaked in tears. For nearly two decades, Monica travailed in intercession for her wayward son, and God answered mightily. Augustine not only returned to faith but became one of the greatest theologians and saints in Christian history.

This 10-day prayer program is crafted to guide mothers who are crying secretly, carrying pain, and longing for restoration in the life of their child. It is a journey of faith, healing, and prophetic intercession.

WHY WE MUST BELIEVE

1. **God is a Restorer** – He turns prodigals into prophets (*Luke 15:11–32*).
2. **He Honors Tears** – *Psalms 56:8* says He bottles our tears.
3. **Persistent Prayer Has Power** – *Luke 18:1* encourages us to never give up.
4. **God Sees the End from the Beginning** – *Isaiah 46:10*.
5. **Faith is a Weapon** – *Hebrews 11:1* reminds us that faith is the substance of things back hoped for.

Indeed, that Child is a Treasure in Earthen Vessel and He/She will be refined as you keep praying. If God could turn the life of Saul, a murderer around, God can restore the fortunes of your Child. Like the Prodigal Son, there is a returning being planned.

MONICA – ST. AUGUSTINE’S MOTHER

Monica was a devout Christian mother married to a pagan husband. Her son, Augustine, was brilliant but prideful, steeped in sexual sin, philosophy, and rebellion against the faith. For over 17 years, Monica prayed, fasted, and sought spiritual guidance.

A bishop once said to her: *“The child of so many tears shall not perish.”* That word held true. Augustine encountered Christ, converted radically, and became a bishop and Church Father.

Monica’s legacy teaches us: **No child is beyond God’s reach. No prayer is in vain.**

MODE OF PRAYERS:

The prayers are all season prayers and may be used alongside a fasting program. These are pointers for you to adapt as deemed expedient. Feel free to pray them in line with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

1. THE GOD WHO SEES (Genesis 16:13)

“You are the God who sees me...” – Genesis 16:13

Prayer 1

Scripture: Luke 15:20 – *“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion...”*

Prayer Point: Ask the Lord to *fix His eyes* on your child with compassion.

Prayer:

“Father, just as the prodigal’s father saw his son from afar, see my child today. Let Your compassion arise. Look upon (insert Child’s name) with mercy. Arrest his/her heart and hims/her back to You.”

Prayer 2

Scripture: Psalm 139:7–10

Prayer Point: Invite the Holy Spirit to meet your child *wherever they are*.

Prayer:

“Lord, even if my child makes their bed in the depths, You are there. I ask that

Your Spirit would hover over him/her—convict, comfort, and call him/her out of darkness into Your marvelous light.”

Prayer 3

Scripture: Genesis 16:13

Prayer Point: Remind yourself that *you are not alone*.

Prayer:

“O God who sees, You saw Hagar in the wilderness. See me, a mother in travail. Hear my cry for my child. Strengthen my heart as I pray.”

BREAKING STRONGHOLDS (2 Corinthians 10:4–5)

“The weapons of our warfare are not carnal...”

Prayer 4

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 10:4

Prayer Point: Declare war on every stronghold over your child’s life.

Prayer:

“In Jesus’ name, I pull down every stronghold over my child’s mind—addiction, rebellion, confusion, pride. I decree: You shall not prevail. My child will know the truth and the truth will set him/her free!”

Prayer 5

Scripture: Isaiah 49:24–25

Prayer Point: Claim divine rescue for your child.

Prayer:

“Mighty God, contend with what contends with me. Take my child from the hand of the mighty. Set my child free from spiritual captivity. You promised to save the children of the faithful!” save my child oh God Almighty.

Prayer 6

Scripture: Acts 26:18

Prayer Point: Pray for eyes to be opened and hearts turned to God.

Prayer:

“Father, open my child’s eyes. Turn my child from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God. Let the veil be removed. Let my child receive forgiveness and a place among the sanctified.”

SPEAKING LIFE (Proverbs 18:21)

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue...”

Prayer 7

Scripture: Ezekiel 37:4

Prayer Point: Speak resurrection life into dead areas.

Prayer:

“I prophesy to the dry bones in my child’s life—live! Faith, destiny, and purity—come alive! Let dead dreams be resurrected and divine calling be restored.”

Prayer 8

Scripture: Proverbs 18:21

Prayer Point: Speak identity and destiny over your child.

Prayer:

“I cancel every negative word spoken over my child—by others or by themselves. I declare: You are loved, chosen, and called. You will walk in truth and not deception.”

Prayer 9

Scripture: Isaiah 55:11

Prayer Point: Trust God’s Word to do its work.

Prayer:

“Lord, Your Word does not return void. Let every promise I’ve declared over my child bear fruit. Let Your Word chase, protect and draw my child home.”

THE POWER OF MERCY (Lamentations 3:22–23)

“His mercies are new every morning...”

Prayer 10

Scripture: Lamentations 3:22

Prayer Point: Plead mercy over judgment.

Prayer:

“Lord, in Your mercy, forgive my child’s sins. Let mercy triumph over judgment. Cover my child with the blood of Jesus and restore my child to righteousness.”

Prayer 11

Scripture: Psalm 103:8–12

Prayer Point: Declare God’s forgiveness and compassion.

Prayer:

“Father, You are compassionate and gracious. Remove my child’s transgressions as far as east is from west. Do not treat my child as their sins deserve. Remember mercy oh My Father...”

Prayer 12

Scripture: Micah 7:18–19

Prayer Point: Trust God to cast their sins into the sea.

Prayer:

“Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and delights in mercy? Cast my child’s sins into the depths of the sea and hurl them far from their future.”

DIVINE INTERRUPTION (Acts 9:3–6)

“Suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him...”

Prayer 13

Scripture: Acts 9:3

Prayer Point: Ask for a divine encounter like Saul's.

Prayer:

“Jesus, just as You met Saul on the road to destruction, intercept my child’s path. Interrupt my child’s rebellion with Your glory. Arrest my child’s heart and give my child a new name.”

Prayer 14

Scripture: Isaiah 30:21

Prayer Point: Pray they hear God’s voice behind them.

Prayer:

“Cause my child to hear a voice behind saying, ‘This is the way; walk in it.’ Let my child turn from every wrong path and follow You.”

Prayer 15

Scripture: Psalm 107:13–14

Prayer Point: Cry out for deliverance from distress.

Prayer:

“In their trouble, let them cry out to You, O Lord. Bring my child out of darkness and break every chain. Let Your light shine into the prison of my child’s mind and soul.”

THE HEART OF THE FATHER (Luke 15:20–24)

“This son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found...”

Prayer 16

Scripture: Luke 15:20

Prayer Point: Believe in the Father’s compassion.

Prayer:

“Father, just as You ran to meet the prodigal, run toward my child. Let my dear

child feel the embrace of Your love, not judgment. Overwhelm my child with mercy and acceptance.”

Prayer 17

Scripture: Zephaniah 3:17

Prayer Point: Declare the Father’s joy over your child.

Prayer:

“You rejoice over my child with singing. Let my child hear Your song again. Let my child’s heart remember the joy of belonging to You.”

Prayer 18

Scripture: Romans 2:4

Prayer Point: Ask that God’s kindness lead to repentance.

Prayer:

“Father, Your kindness leads to repentance. Let Your goodness flood my child’s life—not for comfort, but for conviction. Show him/her that Your love is better than sin.”

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH (John 16:13)

“When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth...”

Prayer 19

Scripture: John 16:13

Prayer Point: Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your child into truth.

Prayer:

“Holy Spirit, You are the Spirit of truth. Lead my child out of deception, confusion, and every lie. Speak louder than the noise of the world.”

Prayer 20

Scripture: 1 John 4:6

Prayer Point: Break the influence of false voices.

Prayer:

“Lord, silence every voice not of You in my child’s life—false ideologies, ungodly counsel, toxic relationships. Let Your truth rise like the sun.”

Prayer 21

Scripture: John 8:32

Prayer Point: Declare freedom through truth.

Prayer:

“My child will know the truth, and the truth will set them free. Let every chain fall as truth floods my child’s soul. No more bondage, Lord—just freedom in You.”

RETURN TO PURPOSE (Jeremiah 1:5)

“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you...”

Prayer 22

Scripture: Jeremiah 1:5

Prayer Point: Call forth their divine assignment.

Prayer:

“God, You formed my child for a purpose. I call forth destiny. Awaken his/her spiritual assignment. Let every detour be redirected toward divine calling.”

Prayer 23

Scripture: Ephesians 2:10

Prayer Point: Declare they will walk in God’s prepared works.

Prayer:

“Lord, my child is Your workmanship. Prepare his/her feet to walk in Your will. Detach my child from counterfeit paths. Align my child’s steps with eternal purpose.”

Prayer 24

Scripture: Proverbs 19:21

Prayer Point: Submit their plans to God's will.

Prayer:

"Many are the plans in my child's heart, but Your purpose will prevail. Frustrate every plan not from You. Let only Your counsel stand."

STANDING IN THE GAP (Ezekiel 22:30)

"I looked for someone among them who would stand in the gap..."

Prayer 25

Scripture: Ezekiel 22:30

Prayer Point: Declare your spiritual stand on their behalf.

Prayer:

"Here I am, Lord—standing in the gap for my child. Let no destruction fall. Build a wall of intercession around my child until he/she return to you oh my Father."

Prayer 26

Scripture: Job 1:5

Prayer Point: Intercede through repentance and sacrifice.

Prayer:

"Like Job, I stand as priest over my family. Forgive my child where he/she has sinned in word or thought. Cleanse my child with the blood of Jesus."

Prayer 27

Scripture: Galatians 6:9

Prayer Point: Pray for endurance in your intercession.

Prayer:

“I will not grow weary in prayer. I will not faint in the day of adversity. I trust that in due season, my prayers will bring a harvest of salvation.”

CELEBRATING THE RETURN (Luke 15:24)

“Let us celebrate and be glad...”

Prayer 28

Scripture: Luke 15:24

Prayer Point: Rejoice in faith for the coming testimony.

Prayer:

“Lord, I thank You in advance for my child’s return. I see my child restored, clothed in righteousness, filled with the Spirit. I dance by faith and rejoice in hope.”

Prayer 29

Scripture: Revelation 12:11

Prayer Point: Declare the power of your testimony and prayers.

Prayer:

“By the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony, my child will overcome. I declare: the enemy has lost. Jesus reigns in our story.”

Prayer 30

Scripture: Psalm 126:5–6

Prayer Point: Thank God for turning tears into joy.

Prayer:

“Those who sow in tears will reap with shouts of joy. I have wept, I have travailed—but joy is coming. My child will return, and Your name will be glorified.”

30 Victory Declarations & Chants for the Wayward Child

(Speak them daily, repeatedly, and boldly—until faith overcomes fear.)

1. “My child shall live and not die, and declare the works of the Lord!”

—*Psalms 118:17*

2. “No weapon formed against my child shall prosper!”

—*Isaiah 54:17*

3. “The seed of the righteous shall be delivered!”

—*Proverbs 11:21*

4. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon my child, for He has anointed them!”

—*Luke 4:18*

5. “God will contend with those who contend with me and save my children!”

—*Isaiah 49:25*

6. “The Lord shall perfect all that concerns my child!”

—*Psalms 138:8*

7. “The Lord has plans to prosper my child, not to harm them, plans for hope and a future!”

—*Jeremiah 29:11*

8. “The Lord shall pour out His Spirit upon my child and they shall prophesy!”

—*Joel 2:28*

9. “My child will be taught by the Lord and great shall be their peace!”

—*Isaiah 54:13*

10. “Even in the wilderness, God is making a way for my child!”

—*Isaiah 43:19*

11. “My child is more than a conqueror through Christ Jesus!”

—*Romans 8:37*

12. “God’s mercy endures forever over my household!”

—*Psalms 136:1*

13. “My child is not forsaken—God has engraved them on the palm of His hand!”

—*Isaiah 49:16*

14. “Where sin abounds, grace abounds much more in my child’s life!”

—*Romans 5:20*

15. “My child will return from the land of the enemy!”

—*Jeremiah 31:16*

16. “My child shall be like a tree planted by rivers of water, bearing fruit in season!”

—*Psalm 1:3*

17. “The joy of the Lord is becoming my child’s strength!”

—*Nehemiah 8:10*

18. “God is restoring the years the locusts have eaten!”

—*Joel 2:25*

19. “He who began a good work in my child will bring it to completion!”

—*Philippians 1:6*

20. “My child is chosen, royal, and holy—set apart for God’s glory!”

—*1 Peter 2:9*

21. “The Lord is lifting my child from the pit and setting their feet upon a rock!”

—*Psalm 40:2*

22. “My child is the head and not the tail, above only and not beneath!”

—*Deuteronomy 28:13*

23. “There shall be a sound of rejoicing in my house again!”

—*Psalm 126:2*

24. “Every tongue that rises in judgment against my child shall be condemned!”

—*Isaiah 54:17*

25. “Light is breaking through for my child—the darkness cannot overcome it!”

—*John 1:5*

26. “The Lord Himself will shepherd my child and lead them home!”

—*Ezekiel 34:11–12*

27. “My child will not be lost; they are being drawn by God’s lovingkindness!”

—*Jeremiah 31:3*

28. “My child will arise and return to the Father’s house!”

—*Luke 15:18*

29. “The enemy has been defeated by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony!”

—*Revelation 12:11*

30. “It is finished! The battle is won. My child belongs to Jesus!”

—*John 19:30*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father,

With all my heart, I give You thanks. You have heard my cries, caught every tear, and stood beside me in this battle. Thank You for the promises that are *yes and amen* in Christ. Thank You that You love my child even more than I do. Thank You that the seeds of prayer have been planted in faith and watered with tears—and I trust You for the harvest.

I thank You that the chains are broken, the veil is lifting, and the prodigal is returning. Even when I do not yet see it, I praise You for what's already begun in the spirit. I trust You to finish what You started in my child's life.

Blessed be Your holy name. I rejoice in advance for the testimony. May You receive all glory, all honor, and all praise.

In Jesus' mighty name, Amen.

Dear Fellow Pilgrim on this journey. Be strong and be encouraged. If God did it for 1 million women, you are next in line. Just have faith and believe without doubting that God who did it for others is on your side.

I am waiting for your testimony.