

# PRAISING FOR DESCENDANTS PRAYER JOURNAL

Written by  
Lois Bravo

Psalm 112:1-2. Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments. **His descendants will be mighty on earth;** the generation of the upright will be blessed.

This prayer journal may be shared with any and all who wish to make it their own for their family and descendants. As this prayer journal is passed on to those who are interested, please leave the journal as written, including the letter to my (Lois Bravo's) descendants as this letter is an integral and necessary part of the journal. All that is needed to make this journal your own is to write a letter to your descendants, telling them why you want to make this a part of your family heritage.

May God bless all who choose to use this *Praying for Descendants Prayer Journal* with this verse spoken by God to Jeremiah the prophet.

Jeremiah 3: 33. **“Call to me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you do not know.”**

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*Soli Deo Gloria*

With much appreciation this journal is dedicated to my husband, **Exe**, who generously provided support, suggestions, and a new computer system for this project, and to my children, **Tina** and **Eric** and their families.



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# **Psalm 31: 14-15**

**But as for me, I trust in You, O  
Lord**

**I say, "You are my God."  
My times are in Your hand...**

The year of our Lord, 2004

Dear Children, Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren, and all my descendants to a thousand generations, to the end of time,

I would like to leave to you, my descendants, these prayers for the future of our family as a legacy for you all to pass on to the generations that are to follow.

John 18: 36. **Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world."**

Jesus said in Matthew 6: 19-21, **"Do not lay up for yourself treasures on earth where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."**

For those of you that will live long after I write this letter, my name is Lois Lee Lind Bravo. I am 61 years old. It is the year 2004. I believe that the Lord has given me the inspiration and purpose to pray for my descendants down to a thousand generations, until the end of time.

The name Lois is mentioned in the Bible by the apostle Paul. Lois was the grandmother of Timothy. In 2 Timothy 1: 5, Paul writes, **"...when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also."**

My desire and prayer is to have faith as Timothy's grandmother Lois had, passed down to all my descendants as Grandmother Lois passed her faith down to her daughter Eunice, and Eunice passed her faith down to her son Timothy. God's word says that strong faith is imperative as we battle for the kingdom. It is part of the whole armor of God. It is protection from the enemy. In Ephesians 6: 16, God's word says, **"...above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one."**

To have genuine faith we must first believe a thing is possible. In Mark 9: 23-24, Jesus says, to a father whose son needed healing, **"...if you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."** Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, **"Lord I believe, help my unbelief."** I am asking the Lord to increase my belief and strengthen my faith to pray with confidence and assurance for my descendants to be gathered into the heavenly kingdom to a thousand generations, to the end of time.

The Lord is the one who is faithful.

Deuteronomy 7: 9. **“Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.”**

Isaiah 59: 21. **“As for Me,” says the Lord, “this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants’ descendants,” says the Lord, “from this time and for evermore.”**

Psalms 105: 8. **He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded for a thousand generations...**

2 Peter 3: 8-9. **But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**

Because God is faithful and keeps covenant and mercy to those who love Him and keep His commandments, if we ask these prayer requests for our descendants and leave the fulfilling of these requests to the Lord, we have taken a step for blessing this earth and our families, down through history. As God answers our prayers, we and the generations to follow will have a part in filling the whole world with God’s glory. In Matthew 13: 33 Jesus told a parable, **“...The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.”**

### **God is faithful.**

1 John 5:14-15. **Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**

I pray these prayers in this journal for all of you, my descendants, to a thousand generations, to the end of time. Can you imagine, because God is faithful, how many lives will be impacted for Jesus’ kingdom? I am asking each of you to pray these prayers for your descendants to a thousand generations, make copies of this prayer journal and pass it on to your children who will continue praying for their descendants to a thousand generations and on and on and on down to the end of time. Please pray with me that the Lord will guard these prayers, that this journal will never be lost, discarded, or ignored, but that each generation will be captured by God’s promises for our family’s future to fill the whole world with His glory.

As the Lord answers these prayers for our descendants, our family will spread out over the face of the whole earth. We will be that yeast of the kingdom that permeates, perhaps hidden and unseen at times, but always enlarging and penetrating into our world and culture for our God's glory. As we pray these prayers we are truly laying up treasure in heaven that cannot be destroyed.

Psalm 46: 10. **“Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”**

May God bless you all abundantly!

Sincerely with love from your ancestor,

Lois Lee Lind Bravo

## **PRAYERS FOR THE GENERATIONS**

O Lord as I pray for my descendants, all the generations that will follow me, I ask that these verses prayed from Your word, that accompany these requests, be powerful and sharp as You promise in Hebrews 4:12. "For the word of God is **living and powerful**, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

### **That they have salvation and eternal life.**

Isaiah 49: 24-25. Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the captives of the righteous be delivered? But thus says the Lord: "Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible be delivered; for I will contend with him who contends with you, **and I will save your children.**"

Matthew 18: 14. "Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

2 Peter 3: 9. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long suffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish,** but that all should come to repentance.

### **That they be full of the Holy Spirit, faith and wisdom.**

Acts 6: 5. ...And they chose Stephen, **a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit...**

Acts 11: 24. For he was **a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.** And a great many people were added to the Lord. (This good man was Barnabas.)

Hebrews 11: 1-2. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, for by it the elders obtained a good testimony.

1 John 5: 4. **For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--OUR FAITH.**

Proverbs 2: 6. For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding...

Psalms 111: 10. **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;** a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

James 1: 5-6. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

### **That they have the mind of Christ.**

1 Corinthians 2: 16. For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

2 Corinthians 10: 4-5. **"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,** casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Isaiah 26: 3-4. You will keep him in perfect peace, **whose mind is stayed on You,** because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for in Yah, the Lord, is everlasting strength.

Philippians 4: 8. Finally, my brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is anything praiseworthy-- meditate on these things.

**That they have a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind.**

2 Timothy 1: 7. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Acts 1: 8. "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

1 Corinthians 4: 20. **For the kingdom of God is not in word but in POWER.**

1 John 4: 18. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear...

Romans 12: 2. And do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed by the renewing of your mind,** that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

**That they will use to the utmost their spiritual gifts and talents for God's glory.**

2 Timothy 1: 6. Therefore, I remind you to stir up the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

Matthew 25: 29. **For to everyone who has, more will be given,** and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

1 Corinthians 12: 31. But **earnestly desire** the best gifts...

1 Corinthians 14: 1. Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, **but especially that you may prophesy.**

**That you, Lord will lead them in paths of righteousness**

Psalms 23: 3. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

Proverbs 10: 16. The labor of the righteous leads to life...

Proverbs 10:30. **The righteous will never be removed, but the wicked will not inhabit the earth.** The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom...

**That Your word, Lord, be a lamp to their feet and a light to their path and that they hide God's word in their hearts.**

Psalms 119: 105. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalms 119: 11. Your word I have hidden in my heart that I might not sin against You.

Deuteronomy 10: 18. **"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.."**

**That they be anointed by the Lord for ministry and service and placed by God into His service at the exact right time in history.**

Mark 16: 15. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Luke 10: 2. Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Genesis 45: 7-8. **"And God sent me** before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance." (God's word to Joseph).

Judges 6: 14. Then the Lord turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. **Have I not sent you?"** (God's word to Gideon).

Nehemiah 2: 8, 12. ...And the king granted them to me **according to the good hand of my God upon me.** Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me; I told no one **what my God had put in my heart** to do at Jerusalem... (God's word to Nehemiah).

Esther 4: 14. **"...Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"** God's word to Esther spoken by her relative Mordecai).

1 Corinthians 12: 18. But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body **just as He pleased.**

**That they have humble and repentant hearts, be quick to forgive and to be reconciled one to another.**

2 Chronicles 7: 14. "...if My people who are called by My name **will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways,** then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

1 John 1: 9-10. **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins** and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Matthew 6: 12. "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

Matthew 5: 23-24. "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. **First be reconciled to your brother,** and then come and offer your gift."

**That they have the perseverance and endurance to run the course and finish the race.**

Hebrews 12: 1. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, **and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...**

2 Timothy 4: 7. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Isaiah 40: 31. But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, **they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**

**That the Lord will provide them with godly mates, and their marriages be Christ centered and fruitful with children.**

2 Corinthians 6: 14. Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.

Psalm 127: 1. **Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.**

Psalm 127: 3-5. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; **they shall not be ashamed,** but shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

**That they teach God's word to their children.**

Deuteronomy 11: 19-21. "You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, **that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land** of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth."

**That the Lord will provide for all their needs as they seek first righteousness.**

Matthew 6: 33-34. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Philippians 4: 19. **And my God shall supply all your need** according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

**That they be delivered from evil.**

Matthew 6: 13. "And do not lead us into temptation, but, **deliver us from the evil one.** For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

John 17: 15-16, 20. "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that **You should keep them from the evil one.** They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world." **"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word."**

Psalm 34:7. The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

**That they have the blessing of long life.**

Exodus 20: 12. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 30: 19-20. "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing, **therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;** that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days..."

Proverbs 3: 1-2. My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you.

Proverbs 4: 10-13. Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, and the years of your life will be many. I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, and when you run, you will not stumble. Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go; keep her, for she is your life.

Proverbs 9: 10-11. **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For by me your days will be multiplied, and years of life will be added to you.**

**That they have a life filled with praise to God.**

Psalm 69: 30. I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

Psalm 70: 4. Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; and let those who love Your salvation say continually, **"Let God be magnified!"**

Psalm 18: 14. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

**That in the years to come, they have the wisdom and insight needed during their lifetimes to have understanding of God's purposes and plans to fill the whole world with His glory.**

Numbers 14: 21. ..."but truly, as I live, **all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord"...**

Habakkuk 2: 14. **For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord,** as the waters cover the sea.

Psalm 72: 17-20. His name shall endure forever; His name shall continue as long as the sun. And men shall be blessed in Him; **All nations shall call Him blessed.** Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, Who only does wondrous things!

**And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.**

## AN EXERCISE IN FAITH

When God spoke to Abraham, “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”

Genesis 17: 7. God also told Abraham, “blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”

Genesis 22: 17, 18.

God’s statements of infinite descendants coming from Abraham were not just a nice heavenly metaphor. His statements were accurate mathematically. And this statement is also true for the generations that will one day follow us down to the end of time.

I wondered how this statement, by God to Abraham, would work out in a line of descendants coming from ordinary people down to a thousand generations (30,000 years when one generation equals 30 years). Not having the knowledge necessary to find the answer, I asked a friend, Carolyn Peterson, from our church, Christ Church in Apple Valley, Minnesota, [www.christchurchmn.org](http://www.christchurchmn.org), for help. Carolyn just happens to have a brilliant mathematical mind, so I asked her to work out this problem for me, if possible. She and another math whiz friend, Ross Schwartz, did work out this problem and I am grateful for their help. This exercise has given me an added quantum leap of faith. Truly our descendants will one day be like the stars in heaven and the sands of the sea as we continue to pray for God to use each and every one of us and our posterity for His purpose and the Lord then brings these prayers of ours to completion, giving us the desire of our hearts.

I want to once again thank Carolyn Peterson and Ross Schwartz for their help with the math problem. I also want to thank my Pastor, Jim Munson, who was very encouraging to me as I began writing this Prayer for Descendants prayer journal. Thanks much, Jim.

Psalm 28: 8-9. **The Lord is their strength, and He is the saving refuge of His anointed. Save Your people, and bless Your inheritance; shepherd them also, and bear them up forever.**

If two people marry at age 25 and produce two children by age 30, each child marries at age 25 and produces two children by age 30, and each person lives to age 90, how many descendants will there be in 30,000 years, assuming mates are counted as descendants and mates are not already actual descendants? How many descendants are living in 30,000 years?

If two people marry (2), produce two children by age 30, and the children marry by age 25 (4 married children), the number of descendants will double every 30 years (one generation).

2      4      8      16      32      64      128      256      512      1,024 = total 2,046 people  
 $2^1$      $2^2$      $2^3$      $2^4$      $2^5$      $2^6$      $2^7$      $2^8$      $2^9$      $2^{10}$

For example, the following equation can be used to calculate the total number of descendants in 10 generations (300 years):

$$? 2^n = (2 \times 2^n) - 2 = (2 \times 2^{10}) - 2 = (2 \times 1,024) - 2 = 2,046, \text{ where } n = \text{number of generations}$$

The number of total descendants increases greatly after 10 generations:

Generations	Years	Total Descendants
10	300	2,046
15	450	65,534
20	600	2.10 million
30	900	2.15 billion
40	1,200	2.20 trillion
50	1,500	2.25 quadrillion
1,000	30,000	Infinite

If each descendant lives to age 90, there will be approximately 3 generations alive at one time. The following equation can be used to calculate the number of living descendants:

$$\text{Descendants alive} = 2^{n-2} + 2^{n-1} + 2^n, \text{ where } n = \text{the number of the generation (30 years)}$$

For example, by the 10<sup>th</sup> generation (300 years), there will be approximately 1,792 living descendants ( $2^8 + 2^9 + 2^{10} = 1,792$ ).

Generations	Years	Living Descendants
10	300	1,792
15	450	57,344
20	600	1.84 million
30	900	1.88 billion
40	1,200	1.92 trillion
50	1,500	1.97 quadrillion
1,000	30,000	Infinite

## WORLD OVERPOPULATION A MYTH?

As I thought about the last journal section, An Exercise in Faith, it dawned on me that some people might find it objectionable today to suggest that our earth could benefit from an increase in people, godly or otherwise. However, when God created man and woman in His own image He told Adam and Eve after blessing them, "...Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28.

I wondered if the world truly was so fully populated today that it would be hazardous to think in terms of praying for our families to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. Perhaps God, when speaking to Adam and Eve, didn't appreciate how crowded our world would be in the 21 century.

As I thought about this, I remembered that one of our Pastors, Steve Swanson, once gave an illustration about this very thing. He said all the people in the world would fit into the state of Texas. I really didn't believe it, until I went home and did the math. Sure enough, Steve was right. So here is that illustration with the mathematics which proves it. (Thanks a million Steve for this quirky but insightful illustration.)

The land mass of Texas is **266,807 square miles**. Each square mile is equal to **640 acres** or **3,097,600 square yards** or **27,878,400 square feet**. The estimated **world population as of the year 2005 is 6,396,000,000**.

To find out how today's population would fit per acre into each square acre in Texas, compute the square acres in Texas (multiply **266,807 sq miles** by **640 acres** = **170,756,480** sq acres in Texas). Now divide the world population of **6,396,000,000** by the sq acres in Texas **170,756,480** and we find that **37.5 people** can call one acre in Texas home. This might seem just a bit crowded by our standards in today's world.

Today if you should visit Hong Kong, according to *The World Factbook* found at the official C.I.A. government website [www.cia.gov/](http://www.cia.gov/), you would find that Hong Kong has a growing **population of 6,855,125** located on (1092 sq km.) or **421.8** sq miles. This computes to **25.4 people per acre of land and water** or 12 people less than our theoretical **37.5 people** per acre in the state of Texas.

(Multiply **421.8 sq. miles** by **640** (acres per mile) = **269,952 acres** in Hong Kong.  
Divide the **population of Hong Kong (6,855,125)** by **269,952** the acres in Hong Kong = **25.4** people per acre.)

Although Hong Kong is often referred to as being overpopulated, its per capita GDP compares with the level in the four big economies of Western Europe. Hong Kong's economy is actually doing quite well. How could this be?

Now let's go on to how many people could theoretically stand in the state of Texas on 1 square yard of land. To compute the square yards in Texas multiply **3,097,600** square yards (in 1 sq. mile) x **266,807 square miles** (the sq. miles in Texas)= **826,461,363,200 square yards in Texas**. This number reads as follows: 826 billion, 461 million, 363 thousand, and 2 hundred. Texas is truly a big state.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3,097,600 \text{ sq yds} \\
 \times \quad 266,807 \text{ sq miles} \\
 \hline
 21,683,200 \\
 0,000,000 \\
 24,780,800 \\
 18,585,600 \\
 18,585,600 \\
 \hline
 6,195,200 \\
 \hline
 \mathbf{826,461,363,200 \text{ sq yds}}
 \end{array}$$

Again, the population of the world in 2005 is estimated to be **6,396,000,000**. If each person in the world were allotted 1 square yard on which to stand in the state of Texas, all the world population would fit into this state nicely with lots of room to spare. In fact it would take approximately 129 times the 6,396,000,000 world population today to fill the square yardage in Texas.

Let's do the math **826,461,363,200 square yards in Texas** – **6,396, 000,000 world population** = **820,065,363,200 square yards left over** for over **820 billion more people to stand alongside the current world population relocated to Texas.**

Obviously, it would not be in anyone's best interest to have the entire population of the world relocated to the Lone Star State. But it does illustrate that though we may hear from certain people the perspective that even today the earth is in grave danger of becoming so overpopulated that perhaps, in the not too distant future, the earth will become increasingly unlivable, this may not be so. Look at a globe of our world. Find the state of Texas. It is, in fact, very small when compared to the land mass of our entire world. Just think about it, a world empty of people except for the state of Texas.

Our world then does not seem to be overpopulated. Yes, there are places in our world today that experience famine, drought, and pestilence, but do we know for a fact that these same conditions will always exist in these places? Great strides have taken place just in the last 100 years in finding technology of every sort that has the potential in years to come to aid peoples worldwide to combat hunger, poverty, and disease. So when we pray for our descendants, asking God to bless them, making them fruitful with children, so that one day our descendants will be as the sands of the sea or the stars of the sky we are indeed not praying for something that will be detrimental to the world in which we live. God states clearly in His word that He blesses the righteous, that the righteous will inherit the earth, and so we and our descendants will, as the whole world increasingly becomes filled with God's glory.

## **JOB INTERCEDES FOR HIS CHILDREN**

Job 1: 5. So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did regularly.

O Lord I pray, as Job did for his children, his descendants, and ask for my descendants that You sanctify (consecrate) each one daily and that they be prepared each day to stand firm against the enemy (Satan) by putting on the whole armor of God.

## **THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD ON ALL MY DESCENDANTS**

Ephesians 6: 10-18.

Finally, my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand, therefore, having girded your waist with truth

*We desire and love truth. Jesus is truth. John 14: 6. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

Having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

*You are our righteousness, Lord. Isaiah 63: 6. But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags...*

And having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;  
*Prepare our feet to go into the whole world to preach the gospel.*  
*Mark 16: 15. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."*

Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.  
*Faith as Timothy's grandmother had, genuine faith. Timothy 1: 5. ...when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.*

And take the helmet of salvation  
*Protection for the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2: 16. For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.*

And the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;  
*Hebrews 4: 12. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

Praying always with all prayers and supplications in the Spirit,  
*Strengthen our hearts to desire to pray. Luke 18: 1. Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart...*

Being watchful to this end with all perseverance  
*1 Corinthians 16: 13. Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.*  
*1 Corinthians 15: 58. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*

And supplication for all the saints—  
*Pray for our descendants down to a thousand generations, 30,000+ years, to the end of time. Philippians 1:3-4. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy...*

**GOD CAN DO ANYTHING  
VERSES OF ENCOURAGEMENT**

Job 42:2. **I know You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You!**

Jeremiah 32: 17, 26-27. Ah, Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. **There is nothing too hard for You.** Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying, **"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh, is there anything too hard for me?"**

1 John 5: 14-15. Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Psalm 78: 2-7. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers. **That they should make them known to their children; That the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children,** that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments...

Psalm 25: 12-13. Who is the man that fears the Lord? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses. He himself shall dwell in prosperity (goodness) **and his descendants shall inherit the earth.** Psalm 37: 9-10. For evildoers shall be cut off, **but those who wait on the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.** For yet a little while and the wicked will be no more...

Psalm 27: 14. Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say on the Lord!

Psalm 37: 4-5. Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, and **He shall bring it to pass.**

Psalm 31: 24. Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord.

## THE FINAL ANALYSIS

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;  
Forgive them anyway.  
If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;  
Be kind anyway.  
If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;  
Succeed anyway.  
If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;  
Be honest and frank anyway.  
What you spend years building, some one may destroy overnight;  
Build anyway.  
If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;  
Be happy anyway.  
Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;  
Give the world the best you've got anyway.  
You see, **in the final analysis, it is all between you and God;**  
It was never between you and them anyway.

—This poem, *The Final Analysis*, is, I believe, an altered (for the better in my opinion) form of the poem *Anyway*, found on a sign on the wall of Shishu Bhavan, the Missionaries of Charity children's home in Calcutta, which was founded by Mother Teresa. This altered version of the poem was brought to my attention when one of our Pastors, Ty Willems, made it available to the congregation in church one Sunday morning. Thanks ever so much, Ty.

This version of the poem *Anyway*, that I have used here, was actually written, according to the New York Times, by 19-year old Kent Keith, in a motivational booklet for high school counselors published while he was a student at Harvard in 1968. In 2002 Dr. Keith was communications director at the Honolulu YMCA. I received this information from Richard Pettinger the web master at [www.poetseers.org/](http://www.poetseers.org/). If you are interested in reading poetry and writings by Mother Teresa, you may do so at the poetseers web site.

Colossians 3: 23-24

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men. **Knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.**

Psalms 71:18

Now also when I am old and gray headed, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare **Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come.**

Luke 18: 1

**Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.**

# **Psalm 31: 14-15**

**But as for me, I trust in You, O  
Lord**

**I say, "You are my God."  
My times are in Your hand...**





## LIST OF INFORMATION THAT WOULD IMPACT FUTURE PRAYING GENERATIONS

(Medical information, negative emotional traits, destructive habits etc.)

Pray that the Lord will intervene to bring discernment, healing, and His overcoming power to each area listed. That God's glory will be manifested without hindrance in and through the lives of each of our descendants.

Psalm 103: 2-3. **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who **heals** all your diseases...**

Matthew: 16-17. ...And He cast out the spirits with a word, and **healed** all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "**He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.**

Isaiah 53: 5. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, **And by His stripes we are healed.**

O Lord, for me and my descendants, I ask that You declare the claims of the enemy null and void by the blood, name, and character of Jesus. Rebuke any touch or hold of Satan in our lives. I pray, O Lord, that You would command the enemy to release and relinquish to Jesus all Satan's claims on my family, and destroy all his works in this family down through all the generations to the end of time. I thank you, O Lord, that You are faithful to hear and answer our prayers as we pray in Your will, and I thank You that even now this prayer is answered in heaven and will be also "on earth as it is in heaven".

Nehemiah 13: 2. **...However our God turned the curse into a blessing.**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.



## ABOUT WRITING THE JOURNAL

I began writing this prayer journal early in the year 2004. It began as a journal with several sections; each section pertained to an area of prayer interest in my life. Each day as I would read the scriptures, I would write down appropriate scripture verses in the various sections of my prayer journal. As time passed, the verses that captured my attention the most were verses that spoke about the descendants of the godly inheriting the earth.

As spring and then summer arrived I began to think about putting these prayers and verses into a separate journal with the idea of giving this journal to my children, Tina and Eric, for Christmas 2004. By October this *Praying for Descendants Prayer Journal* was almost completed except for some final editing.

As I began to share this journal with some of my friends, they gave me positive feedback. I then began to think perhaps this might be something that could be made available to others outside of my own little circle of family and friends. Then I thought, why not on the World Wide Web? At this time I had no idea how this could happen, because I knew nothing about creating a website. So I tucked this thought into a little cubbyhole in the back of my mind.

In the mean time, Christmas came and I gave my children copies of the journal. The response was very positive. My daughter was surprised that her mother actually wrote it all by herself. Since then she and my son-in-law have become my number one prayer journal supporters. They are excited to use these prayers for their family and someday their children, my grandchildren, Ian and Hannah, will also have this journal to pray for their families.

As the New Year 2005 began, I still kept wondering if this journal could somehow be put on a website so that it would be available to anyone who wanted it. Shortly thereafter I was talking to Ross Schwartz, one of the people who helped with the Exercise in Faith problem, and he said that perhaps the *Praying for Descendants Prayer Journal* might be something that could be put on a website. I was excited to have my idea confirmed.

Immediately I set out to learn about creating a website. How daunting this was for a 61 year old homemaker. I was amazed how quickly I found the information I needed. Although I am determined to do the website creation and the maintaining of the site myself, I do have an excellent source of help. My son-in-law Phil has worked in the computer world for some years and he has agreed to help me when I need it. I call him my web master.

I believe that the Lord Jesus is the one who gave me the inspiration to write this prayer journal. He is the one that has led me through each and every step. This is His idea and I believe it is His desire that we pray not only for our present families, but also for the future generations that will someday follow us. I am convinced that this idea is a kingdom idea. Because I believe that the prayers in this journal will further the kingdom of heaven on earth, I am making this *Praying for Descendants Prayer Journal* free to anyone who wants to make a copy of it. It is a gift from me to you.