

Rachel's Prayer

The prayer of a young person
in response to 'The Big Question - What
on Earth are We doing to our children?'



maranatha

Dear our Father, our Abba,

Today, we rejoice in the fact that You are here with us, among us and listening to our prayers.

Because we know that you are hope and light Lord Jesus, I therefore cry out for your help as a figure in the young and new generation.

Have mercy on us. Our nation, - your nation - has been poisoned by so many factors that we youth are losing a firm standing ground, a strong foundation to lean against for support when we are in need of it.

Every day we are greeted by yet more painful news of abuse, violence and death. In such a dark time, we cry out for you to be our light Lord Jesus.

I know that you are the healer of the AIDS orphans in Africa, the hammer of righteousness for the child labourers in India, the supplier of food for those who are starving and the protector of the victims of drug and alcohol abuse, for you are the voice of such unheard people and the King of the nameless.

Therefore, I thank you once again Lord that you are good, your mercy is everlasting and that the Truth - your Truth - endures to all generations.

As we recognise, therefore, that the only true source of good is you Lord Jesus, I pray that all generations urgently realise this fact so that we may follow your

teachings of loving, serving and obeying you and those around us.

May the adults Lord act like true adults and face up to the consequences of their actions, so instead of remaining silent and being ignorant to major issues surrounding children and the youth, may they begin to act in a fearless manner as they acknowledge that the only fear that is needed is the fear of You.

May the children and youth, Lord, act like true children and rightfully obey their mothers, their fathers and other figures of guidance.

Whenever we venture into having a deeper relationship with you Lord, we seek and ask that you replace our selfish and self-righteous knowledge with your supernatural wisdom, insight and understanding.

We also pray that you guide us away from the constant growing obsession with materialism, fame and money which is ever much present in society today. Instead, teach us to invest our time in spiritual wealth rather than that of material wealth.

Father, lead us away from being self-righteous and self-centred so that our morals are not sourced from our tainted and imperfect human minds but only from You.

We pray that the adults sincerely act and believe with your morals Lord, so that we can seek them and learn from them as

figures of guidance and support whenever we are in need of it.

Please erase the hazy and blurry blanket that the devil has cast over the barriers between what is right and wrong so that, in turn, we can become your soldiers of righteousness. Please clothe us in your spiritual armour Lord, as we recognise that we are in the midst of strong spiritual warfare.

Lord, we also pray that you would unite each generation and mould us all into one tool to be used as a means of glorifying your name.

Through such unity Jesus, may every member of this nation also realise that they are not alone as we are one nation, one body of Christ and one Church in You. Teach us to fear you Lord, so that we may humble ourselves before your presence and not be led astray by the devil and his temptations.

Today Lord, we also pray for the members of the communities which continue to be involved in all kinds of work on behalf of children and the youth. We pray that you bless their work with peace and happiness and that through the power of your name, these organisations can restore what is truly vital - love.

We recognise that love is not an emotion but rather an act and a will and in this time Lord Jesus, we confess our sins in that we have failed to act with love as we can easily see through the lovelessness found in society today.

Through the lack of love, vast numbers of children and youth are without any sense of identity and purpose. Consequently, instead of walking down the path which you have set for us, some wander astray through disobeying you and feeling the need to find recognition in others.

However, we know that, through faith, the only recognition that we will ever be satisfied with, is in you Lord.

Lord, you are our hope and victory and we proclaim that by your power, we are able to overcome this particular problem and other problems such as intergenerational theft as we are victorious in You.

As each day passes by and the end of time draws near, we pray that our faith grows evermore stronger and the image of You, which you so lovingly created us with at the beginning of time, is maximised.

Light us with the Holy Spirit as we continue to progress through our lives.

I thank you Lord
I praise you Lord
I worship you Lord
And I serve you Lord.

May you come soon Lord Jesus.
In Jesus' name,

Amen.

This prayer was offered by Rachel Lee, a student at Manchester High School for Girls, at the Manchester Town Hall at the Greater Manchester Prayer Breakfast, 19th June 2013. This was the occasion of the North West launch of *'The Big Question - What on Earth are We doing to our Children?'* published by the Maranatha Community and presented in Parliament in December 2012.