



## Praying as families for families of the missionaries, pastors and those serving Him

Day 39

As we remember the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ on the Cross for us, His model to serve and love others and even give up His life has inspired many to choose a life that embodies Christ and His mission. Many who answered the call of God to share His love through their life and service are the ones who face maximum resistance from the devil and his angels. The message of His grace and love is highly resisted by spiritual forces of darkness, which operate through authorities and powers of this world. However, throughout history, people felt encouraged by the leading of the Holy Spirit to take up the task of proclaiming this good news through words and deeds.

Interestingly, God's prophets like Isaiah and others had a tough job to do. Many of their prophecies were directed towards the evil practices of the people of Israel. The people were even willing to kill the prophets for faithfully delivering the message of God. They had put to death many prophets who told the truth and revealed the heart of God. It's no different today, as the messengers of the gospel are the primary targets of people within and outside the church. Their children and families go through the pain of the enemy's attacks from various quarters. Jesus taught this while He was with us: many will hate you because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved (Matthew 10:22). While this is for all His disciples who want to do His will, the ones who lead need much prayer, especially in these last days of the enemy's targeted attack on God's people.

Many families of those who serve Him full-time are going through various internal issues within their own homes as well. These challenges draw them away from God, and it often paralyzes them to spend adequate time with God and His word. Some are getting pulled by the pleasures of this world and missing out on the purpose of their calling. A survey done by Urban India Ministries among missionary families in India revealed a lack of oneness and intimacy with their spouses resulting in conflicts, while many struggle with anger issues. Some of them love their mission more than their spouse and family. While some are struggling much with their children, who do not want to walk the path of their parents.



They are bitter and angry because of various issues they have faced due to the lack of financial support for them. They need God's healing touch and the right perspective of serving God. Some organizations, for the sake of mission work, compel their children to be sent to boarding schools, denying them the growing years to be with their parents. While sacrifices for His mission are costly, the mission within one's own home should not be neglected for the mission outside. These frontline workers need our prayers and care. While they have enthusiastically taken the work of God as their vocation, they struggle much to fulfill their tasks. We need to pray for their families to have the needed grace to put their homes in order and to joyfully carry the cross for the sake of making Christ known. They need our intense prayers, as truly the battle is getting much thicker and heavier. Though trials and pain are inevitable, the strength and willingness to face these trials with the Lord are the key. Through these hardships, let us also pray that many will be drawn to the offer given by the Cross for humanity.

## LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, as we remember your sacrifice on the Cross to save us, we also remember those who have picked up their cross to follow you. We thank you for calling us to serve your mission and to live as witnesses of you in this world. We thank you for motivating many of them who have experienced you to give up their great careers and vocations to demonstrate your love. Give our leaders and mission workers who are laboring throughout the world in difficult situations to see great breakthroughs and a renewed burden for the things that burden your heart. We pray specifically for their families and children that you will keep them united in your love so that they can be witnesses and have a missional home fulfilling your purposes both within their homes and outside. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

