

# Davenant Foundation School

## Prayer Letter: May to June 2022

Please join us on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May to pray for families and the challenge of parenting. As we pick up the reigns after the pandemic there seems to be more and more challenges faced by parents as they steer their children through life. Large passages of the old testament are written with education in mind. The leaders of the Israelites seeking to set on paper how God had instructed them to live and what they should teach their children. In Joshua we read;

‘And those twelve stones, which they took out of the Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. And he said to the people of Israel, “When your children ask their fathers in times to come, ‘What do these stones mean?’ then you shall let your children know, ‘Israel passed over this Jordan on dry ground.’ For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we passed over, so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever.”’ Joshua 4:20-24

Let us join together in praying for our families to turn to God and seek the way forward for the coming years. Whatever we are facing as families, let us seek to know God in the middle of the challenges and believe that he will ‘make all things work together for good’ however challenging the present may be.

Let us pray that God’s ways and words will be read, meditated on and heard in the homes of our community. As it says in Deuteronomy ‘And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

Ask that God will provide an environment for each of our children to be raised within homes that will instruct them in how to live and that they may be set apart for God’s purposes.

In Proverbs we read one of the most famous but also reassuring pieces of advice for raising children. We read ‘Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6 Pray the hearts of our parents will gain understanding from God’s word and gain faith to follow the instructions. Where parents are in despair may they be reminded of God’s hope in this passage.

And in response ask that our children, whether young or older, even those who have left for home for work or further study, remember the word of God that they heard when they were young and may the Holy Spirit embody those words and bring salvation and hope to these children and their families. As it says in Proverbs 1 v 8-9 ‘Listen, my son, to your father’s instruction and do not forsake your mother’s teaching. 9 They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.’ Proverbs 1:8-9

We believe that God gave us the privilege of raising these children. However we know how challenging this can be. Let us pray that we may know the peace that passeth all understanding. And ask as it says in Philippians that we will know that reality of making our requests known to God. ‘Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.’ Philippians 4:6

Let us close by asking God to hear the cries of our parents and the hearts of our students who are in distress and for Him to send those to advise and comfort them. Ask that those of us with a testimony of God’s love will be witness to others of God’s steadfast love. May we each have experience of knowing God’s mercies as they are described in Lamentations.

‘The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; They are new every morning; Great is your faithfulness.’ Lamentations 3:22–23

Amen

