How to Pray for... YOUTH

Young people are now more educated and have more opportunities than ever before. They are a generation full of passion and potential to make the world a better place. Yet, at the same time, they are at a uniquely vulnerable crossroad. Some rural families, dreaming of a better life for their children, send them to cities—where they can become easy prey for drug dealers, human-traffickers, and sweatshops. Girls are especially vulnerable. They are less likely to receive an education and are too often forced into early marriages or sold into sex-slavery. On the other end of the spectrum, wealth itself can put young people in danger—bringing temptations of materialism, comfort, power, and perceived control. And 24/7 connectivity means young people are bombarded like never before with pornography and cultural lies about sexuality and moral relativism.

God is faithful to shepherd and protect those who follow Him. The problem is, too many young people have never been taught how the work of Christ is meant to reconcile all things on earth and in heaven (Colossians 1:20). Youth desperately need wholistic discipleship. When young adults understand what it means to bring every decision, every action, and every challenge under the lordship of Christ, they have a strong defense against the temptations and deception of this world.

> How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to Your word. I seek You with all my heart; do not let me stray from Your commands. I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You. Psalm 119:9-11

Please pray with us...

- That young people from both Christian and non-Christian backgrounds would have opportunities to hear the whole gospel and commit every area of their lives to Christ. Pray that they would learn and grow mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially. Pray that God would give them discernment to recognize truth and lies and strength to stand against the dangers and evils that they face. Pray that youth would mature into godly leaders, whatever their calling from God.
- Pray for parents and families—that they would guide and advise their children according to God's good intentions for all areas of life. Pray especially that they would value their daughters and protect them. Pray that those who don't know Christ would be drawn to him by the witness of their young adult children.
- Pray that churches and pastors would shepherd young people well giving them firm foundations so they can remain grounded in the ways of the Lord all of their lives.
- Pray that churches would be filled with grace and compassion toward youth who have been caught up in addiction or sex trafficking. That they would reach out to them in love, rescue, give shelter, and provide practical, effective help.
- Pray for secondary schools, vocational schools, seminaries, and universities. Pray that educators would model and teach godly character. Pray that students learn critical thinking, problem-solving, and discernment, and especially about God's love and His plan for their lives.
- Pray for governments to make and enforce laws that protect young people from predators like drug dealers, sex-traffickers, and sweatshops. Pray that more godly young people would be called into careers in politics, and that they would bring just and compassionate leadership to their nations.



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