



A  
Miracle  
of  
**Love**

*God's promises for new parents*

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**God's promises for new parents**

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# At last

After months of  
wondering and  
watching and  
waiting,  
your baby at last has come.

What a joy it is  
to have and to hold your own precious child!

How you marvel  
at the wonder of the new life  
God has given  
to your care.

How great God must be –  
who not only created you,  
but also made you His partner  
in bringing into this world  
the exciting wonder  
of a newborn baby.

What the **Bible** says

You [God] formed the way I think and feel.  
You put me together in my mother's womb.  
I praise you because you made me  
in such a wonderful way.  
I know how amazing that was!  
You could see my bones grow  
as my body took shape,  
hidden in my mother's womb.  
You could see my body grow each passing day.  
You listed all my parts,  
and not one of them was missing.

*Psalm 139:13–16*

# Happiness **is** ...

Some new parents  
almost burst with pride  
whenever they show their new baby to others.  
They seem to feel there has never been  
another baby  
quite like their own.

Perhaps you feel that way, too!

It does not matter that other babies may seem more  
beautiful in the eyes of others.

This is your own precious child!  
For you  
this is the most wonderful baby  
in the entire world!

How exciting it is  
when you as a parent  
show that kind of happiness and pride.

For you, happiness is ... your baby!



What the **Bible** says

I will praise the LORD!  
Let everyone praise his holy name  
forever and ever!

*Psalm 145:21*

Praise the LORD!  
Give thanks to the LORD because he is good!  
His faithful love will last forever!

*Psalm 106:1*



I will praise you, LORD,  
with all my heart.

I will tell about the wonderful  
things you have done.

*Psalm 9:1*



# Joy every **morning**

Each new day  
with your precious baby  
should give you  
another day of thankfulness and joy.

Even though you know  
today may bring its disappointments  
and tomorrow its cares,  
you will still be able to face each new day  
with confidence knowing  
that in every situation,  
God will give you many reasons for joy.

Never let the troubles of the past  
or worries about the future  
take away the wonderful joy  
God is giving you  
today.

## What the **Bible** says

We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him.

*Romans 8:28*

I will praise the LORD at all times.  
I will never stop singing his praises.  
Humble people, listen and be happy,  
while I brag about the LORD.  
Praise the LORD with me.  
Let us honor his name.

*Psalms 34:1-3*

# Easy to **love**

How easy it is for you to love your baby!

The gentle grip of a tiny hand  
around one of your fingers.

The pleasant warmth of a soft body  
next to your own.

The trusting smile of a dimpled face  
pressed against yours.

All these deepen the tender feelings  
you already have for your baby.

But your love for your baby  
does not depend on these things.

You love  
because the baby is your child.  
That's how it is with God's love.

God does not love you because of how you look or  
what you do.

He loves you  
because He is God  
and you are His child.



## What the **Bible** says

The Father has loved us so much! This shows how much he loved us: We are called children of God. And we really are his children....

*1 John 3:1*

The LORD is kind and merciful,  
patient and full of love.  
The LORD is good to everyone.  
He shows his mercy to everything he made.

*Psalms 145:8–9*



[God says,]  
I will comfort you like a mother  
comforting her child.

*Isaiah 66:13*

# The best **parent**

It's easier to *become* a parent than to *be* one!

To be a parent requires far more  
than simply bringing a child into the world.

It requires wisdom and patience,  
energy and effort,  
love and concern,  
time and money,  
and so much more besides.

How can you be the kind of parent  
you *want* to be?

With God's help!

He wants you to be  
the best parent you can possibly be!

## What the **Bible** says

Trust the LORD completely,  
and don't depend on your own knowledge.  
With every step you take,  
think about what he wants,  
and he will help you go the right way.  
Don't trust in your own wisdom,  
but fear and respect the LORD  
and stay away from evil.  
If you do this, it will be like a refreshing drink  
and medicine for your body.

*Proverbs 3:5–8*



# Hungry **again**

Over and over,  
day and night,  
your baby lets you know  
that he or she is hungry again.

And day and night,  
over and over,  
you provide whatever is needed –  
even though you know  
very soon  
your baby will be hungry again.

Your care for your baby  
is a reflection of God's love and care for  
you.

Are you hungry for the food He offers?  
Do you cry out to Him, day and night?  
Do you listen to His calming voice?

God is willing to feed us  
over and over.

We can depend on Him  
just as completely  
as our babies depend on us.

What the **Bible** says

Some of you have said to the LORD,  
“You are my Lord.  
Every good thing I have comes from you.”

*Psalm 16:2*

Thank the LORD for his faithful love  
and for the amazing things he does for people.  
He satisfies those who are thirsty.  
He fills those who are hungry with good things.

*Psalm 107:8–9*

# Perfect **trust**

As a thoughtful parent,  
you will always be your baby's best teacher.

But did you know  
that your baby can also teach you?

Your baby depends on you for everything  
and completely trusts you in every way.

That is how your Father in heaven  
wants *you*  
to trust *Him*.

He wants you to believe  
all the promises He has given you in the Bible.  
He wants you to trust Him completely  
to meet all your needs.

Learn from your baby  
what it means to trust God –

for everything!

## What the **Bible** says

... [Jesus told the people,] “Let the little children come to me. Don’t stop them, because God’s kingdom belongs to people who are like these little children. The truth is, you must accept God’s kingdom like a little child accepts things, or you will never enter it.” Then Jesus held the children in his arms. He laid his hands on them and blessed them.

*Mark 10:14–16*



The LORD is my shepherd.

I will always have everything I need.

He gives me green pastures to lie in.

He leads me by calm pools of water.

He restores my strength.

He leads me on right paths to show that he is good.

Even if I walk through a valley as dark as the grave,

I will not be afraid of any danger,

because you are with me.

Your rod and staff comfort me.

You prepared a meal for me in front of my enemies.

You welcomed me as an honored guest.

My cup is full and spilling over.

Your goodness and mercy will be with me all my life,

and I will live in the LORD'S house a long, long time.

*Psalm 23*

# When things go **wrong**

In spite of all the love and care  
you plan to give your baby,  
you know  
that life at home  
will never be totally free from problems.

Sometimes the problems will be minor  
and will soon go away by themselves.

But at other times the problems may be more serious  
and may not go away at all.

It's good to remember that all of your problems  
– big or small –  
are also real concerns to your Father in heaven.

Learn to share all your problems with Him.  
He lovingly cares about you and your baby.

Remember,  
just as you want your children to come to you  
with their problems,  
God wants you  
to come to Him.

What the **Bible** says

Give your worries to the LORD, and he will care for you.  
He will never let those who are good be defeated.

*Psalm 55:22*

LORD, we worship you, so show your great love for us.

*Psalm 33:22*



# First things **first**

One of the problems new parents often face  
is being  
too  
busy.

They may be too busy  
to enjoy time with their baby,  
too busy  
to keep up the house and the yard,  
too busy  
to meet each other's needs,  
and too busy to spend time with God.

Make sure you are not too busy  
for the most important things in life.

Ask God to help you put first things  
first!

What the **Bible** says

Enjoy serving the LORD,  
and he will give you whatever you ask for.

*Psalm 37:4*

Turn to the LORD for help in everything you do,  
and you will be successful.

*Proverbs 16:3*

Christ is the one who gives me the strength  
I need to do whatever I must do.

*Philippians 4:13*

# Making **room**

The coming of a new baby  
brings about a need for

change.

Husbands and wives have to learn  
how to share their love for each other  
with a precious new life  
that neither of them knew before.

Brothers and sisters have to learn  
how to share the attention of their parents  
with a demanding new little person.

Sharing can be fun – and it often is.  
But it is not always as easy  
as we would like it to be.

Ask God to give you  
the wisdom and grace you will need  
to make every necessary change.

## What the **Bible** says

Do any of you need wisdom? Ask God for it. He is generous and enjoys giving to everyone. So he will give you wisdom.

*James 1:5*

May the LORD make his people strong.  
May the LORD bless his people with peace.

*Psalms 29:11*

With Jesus as our high priest, we can feel free to come before God's throne where there is grace. There we receive mercy and kindness to help us when we need it.

*Hebrews 4:16*



We pray that the Lord will make your love grow.  
We pray that he will give you more and more love  
for each other and for all people. . . .

*1 Thessalonians 3:12*

# Love that **hurts**

It usually does not take parents very long  
to realize that even very small children  
can have a mind of their own!

Parents, therefore, have to learn  
how to provide loving discipline  
for their children.

They have to teach them  
the difficult discipline  
of controlling their wants and to think  
about what's good for others  
instead of thinking only of themselves  
and doing what makes them feel  
good right now.

One way for you to do that as a parent  
is to practice what you teach.

If you want your child  
to grow up able to control his or her wants  
and to do what's best for other people too,  
start practicing these things yourself!

## What the **Bible** says

We don't enjoy discipline when we get it. It is painful. But later, after we have learned our lesson from it, we will enjoy the peace that comes from doing what is right.

*Hebrews 12:11*

Teach children in a way that fits their needs, and even when they are old, they will not leave the right path.

*Proverbs 22:6*

But the fruit that the Spirit produces in a person's life is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

*Galatians 5:22–23a*



# Learning to **pray**

Praying to God is an honor for all of us.

Children must be taught how to pray, too!

At first, maybe,  
they will do little more than  
fold their hands  
and close their eyes  
and repeat your own "Amen."

Gradually they will learn that God in heaven  
sees them  
and hears them  
and listens to what they are saying.

They will learn that God loves  
to have His children pray,  
and that He promises  
to hear and answer them when they do.

What a joyful duty it is  
for you to teach your child how to pray!

## What the **Bible** says

The LORD is near to everyone who sincerely calls to him  
for help.

*Psalm 145:18*

So you should look for the LORD before it is too late.  
You should call to him now, while he is near.

*Isaiah 55:6*

# Just like **you**

When people see your baby  
for the first time,

one of the questions they may ask is this:

*Who does the baby look like?*

Sometimes that question is hard to answer.

Other times the answer is easy:

The baby looks just like you!

More important, though,

than the question about looks is this one:

*Who will the baby **live** like?*

Who will be the example

that your baby will follow in years to come?

Who will teach your baby

what is right and good and true?

Will your baby someday grow up

to be

just

like

you?

## What the **Bible** says

When people live good, honest lives,  
their children are blessed.

*Proverbs 20:7*

More than anything I want to obey your laws always,  
until the end of my life.

*Psalms 119:112*



*Teach children in a way that fits their needs,  
and even when they are old,  
they will not leave the right path.*

*Proverbs 22:6*



*Follow my example,*

*just as I follow the example of Christ.*

*1 Corinthians 11:1*

# In God's **hands**

No one has to remind you –  
the world into which  
your baby has been born  
is filled with uncertainty and fear.

Many parents wonder  
what life will be like for their child  
in the months and years to come.

Perhaps you wonder, too!

God understands  
your concern about your baby's future.

He wants you to remember –  
the future is in His hands.

Do not let your heart be troubled or afraid!

## What the **Bible** says

[Jesus says,]

“I leave you peace. It is my own peace I give you. I give you peace in a different way than the world does. So don't be troubled. Don't be afraid.”

*John 14:27*



# The greatest **gift**

If you are like most parents,  
you will be willing  
to give up many things for your child.

You will be willing to give up  
hours of sleep,  
mountains of energy,  
thousands of dollars,  
and endless time,  
so that your child will have whatever is needed.

Can you imagine anyone who would be willing  
to give up his own child  
for the sake of others?

God did!

God gave His own Son, Jesus Christ,  
so that we and our children  
might have the gift  
of forgiveness and eternal life.

Have you already accepted that gift?  
And will you pass it along to your child?

## What the **Bible** says

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him would not be lost but have eternal life.

*John 3:16*

This is how God showed his love to us: He sent his only Son into the world to give us life through him.

*1 John 4:9*

# A dream **fulfilled**

If all your hopes and dreams for your baby  
came true,  
what would your child become?

Do you dream of  
riches, fame, and power for your child?  
Do you hope for something  
noble, exciting, or important?

These things all have their rightful place,  
but none of them lasts forever.

God promises to all His children  
unshakable peace,  
deep-rooted joy,  
and a life in heaven  
with Him that never ends.

To accept that gift  
– and to help your child accept it –  
is to have your greatest dreams fulfilled!

## What the **Bible** says

Don't love this evil world or the things in it. If you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.

*1 John 2:15*

... I think that all things are worth nothing compared with the greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord....

*Philippians 3:8*



... No one has ever seen,  
no one has ever heard,  
no one has ever imagined  
what God has prepared for those who love him. . . .  
*1 Corinthians 2:9*

# Joining the **family**

Your children are the most important responsibility you will ever have. Raise them in a way that brings them close to God, and you will have a positive spiritual effect on your entire family for generations to come. Here are four keys to help your family begin or maintain a relationship with Jesus:

## **1. Read the Bible – every day!**

On your own, with your spouse, and with your children. When you read the Bible you are listening to God Himself.

## **2. Talk to God – every day.**

Praying to God is not as hard as you might think. Just say what's on your mind. Make sure your children see you talking to God – as they imitate you, talking to God will become natural for them.

## **3. Keep it up.**

Life is busy. Even when we have good intentions about reading the Bible, it's still hard to stick with it. It's worth the effort!

## **4. Let others know.**

Tell other families how your family prays and reads the Bible together, and how this has helped you. And encourage your children to tell their friends about it.

## What the **Bible** says

But some people did accept [Jesus].

They believed in him,

and he gave them the right to become children of God...

*John 1:12*



**We hope this booklet has enriched your relationship with your family and with God. We also hope you will share it with others.**

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