

April Elder Prayer - Rich Roos

ex·hor·ta·tion

exhortation; plural noun: **exhortations**

1. an address or communication emphatically urging someone to do something.

inspire

1. to exert a stimulating or beneficial effect upon (a person); animate or invigorate

1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”

Paul was writing to Timothy who was young and leading a church with older members. Those older members may have intimidated or even criticized Timothy. Paul is exhorting or inspiring Timothy. Paul’s directions to Timothy are still true and good instruction for us.

Let us pray;

Abba Father, you are so Great, the Great I AM, the Great Healer, Counselor, Comforter and Creator of all things!

We come before you with humble hearts and spirit to seek your forgiveness for the sins we have committed. Sometimes we sin before we even think about what we are doing and other times we are just rebellious and succumb to our own self interest and desires. We ask for the Holy Spirit to help us to be more attentive to your directions for our lives and to live according to the direction you show us.

There are several of our church family that need special attention from you. The doctors and medical people can only do so much. We lift the ones on our list of concern up to you; Your Will must be acceptable to us as to the direction you choose for them. We know that your ways and plans for them are far above and better than anything man could think of.

We also ask that our tithes, offerings and gifts presented today be blessed by you and we look to your direction and guidance for proper stewardship of all that have provided. We thank you for the ability to give back to you. You have blessed us all and we are humbled by your generosity.

You know some in our church family have been emotionally hurt by words and actions. We humbly hold them up to you and ask that you would heal the hurt, renew their trust in our church family and help them forgive those that have caused this hurt. Help us all to look to you for guidance and direction as we move forward. Teach us to be more like our Lord and Savior Jesus in our interactions with each other.

We thank You for how you provide all that we need. You have blessed each of us far above what we deserve. We need your direction on a minute by minute basis throughout our day and you provide that—all we need to do is to be open to your instruction and direction. Teach us to be excited to be in your will for our church family, to serve each other with a joyous heart.

We ask all this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen