

OPEN HEAVEN 24 JULY 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: ANOINT AND PRAY OVER YOUR CHILDREN

MEMORISE:

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: Joel 2:28

READ: 1 Samuel 16: 12-13

12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 24 JULY 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

Parents cannot raise their children all by themselves. This is because many other factors are involved in a child's destiny that parents cannot control. Some of these factors include the environment where their children are growing up, the people they interact with, their genetic makeup, and even spiritual forces that surround their entire family and the children in particular.

This is why, beyond all the things that parents do physically to raise their children, they must also pray for them regularly and seek God's help to raise them correctly. Parents must also anoint and pray over their children regularly to protect them from evil forces.

In the short time that I have spent on the earth, I have seen the enemy work all manners of evil in the lives of children. Many times, some parents heap blames on their children for lacking focus, being unserious, or being lazy when they do not succeed, especially in their academics. They get frustrated that they are spending so much money on them without good results. They may not know that there might be forces of darkness that are hindering the child's progress.

It is possible for a student to study very hard and just blank out in the examination hall. There was a case at the University of Lagos some years ago where, right in the examination hall, a young man just began to urinate non-stop.

There was some pandemonium, and those around him began to call an ambulance. However, he told them that this was not the case for the doctor and that they should call his pastor instead. His pastor prayed for him, and he was healed.

The anointing sets a child apart for greatness. Although David was destined to be the king of Israel, that destiny did not find expression until he was anointed.

After he was anointed, the Bible says that the Spirit of the Lord came upon him from that day forward (1 Samuel 16:13). In the very next chapter, he killed the Philistine giant, Goliath, and became a national figure (1 Samuel 17:48- 51).

If you are a parent, speak God's counsel over your children and anoint them regularly. Let them know that they belong to God and that anyone who touches them touches the apple of God's eye (Zechariah 2:8). I pray that God will protect every child from the attacks of the enemy, in Jesus' name.

OPEN HEAVEN 24 JULY 2025 PRAYER POINT

Anointing and praying over children regularly protects them from the devil's plans and sets them apart for greatness.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Isaiah 35-37

HYMN 35:' TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 24 JULY 2025 COMMENTARY

MEMORISE: Joel 2:28

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions."

This prophetic promise reveals God's desire to actively engage with the next generation. It shows that children are not just passive recipients of parenting but vessels for divine encounters.

BIBLE READING: 1 Samuel 16:12-13

The anointing of David teaches us:

- v.12: God looks at the heart, not outward appearances
- v.13: The anointing activates destiny (David's kingship began at this moment)

The Spiritual Dimension of Child-Rearing

The devotional highlights critical truths about raising children in a world of visible and invisible battles.

1. The Limits of Human Parenting

While parents provide:

- Food
- Education
- Moral guidance

Four factors beyond parental control affect children:

- 1. **Environment** (Peer pressure, societal values)
- 2. **Relationships** (Teachers, friends, mentors)
- 3. **Genetics** (Health predispositions)
- 4. Spiritual Forces (Ephesians 6:12)

Example: The UNILAG student's sudden illness during exams was spiritual, not medical.

2. The Power of Spiritual Covering

- The Anointing Principle (1 Samuel 16:13):
 - o David remained a shepherd until anointing oil touched him
 - o Likewise, children need regular spiritual activation through:
 - Prayer
 - Prophetic declarations
 - Anointing with oil (James 5:14)
- Protection Promise (Zechariah 2:8):
 - o Children consecrated to God become "apples of His eye"—untouchable to demons

3. Common Spiritual Attacks on Children

Attack Physical Manifestation Spiritual Solution

Academic Failure Blanking out in exams Anoint study materials (Psalm 119:99)

Strange Sickness Unexplained illnesses Plead the blood (Exodus 12:13)

Rebellion Sudden defiance Break generational curses (Exodus 20:5)

4. Practical Steps for Godly Parenting

- 1. Daily Prophetic Declarations
 - "My child, you are blessed in your going out and coming in (Deuteronomy 28:6). No weapon against you prospers (Isaiah 54:17)!"
- 2. Monthly Anointing
 - Use olive oil to mark their foreheads while praying Psalm 91
- 3. Spiritual Discernment
 - Like the UNILAG student's pastor, recognize when battles are spiritual
- 4. Destiny Activation
 - Help children discover their **spiritual gifts** (2 Timothy 1:6)

Warning Signs of Spiritual Oppression

- Extreme Night Terrors (More than normal bad dreams)
- Sudden Personality Changes (Withdrawal, aggression)
- Unexplained Academic Struggle (Despite hard work)
- Recurring Sickness (Especially around key dates)

Prophetic Declarations for Your Children

- "Every demonic veil over my child's mind tears now! Their IQ supernaturally increases!"
- "My home is a no-fly zone for evil spirits! My children are sealed by the blood!"
- "They shall fulfill their Davidic destiny—Goliaths of addiction and failure fall before them!"

Conclusion: Raising Heaven's Generals

Pray this:

"Father, I cover my children with the blood of Jesus. Pour Your Spirit upon them as in Joel 2:28. Destroy every evil plot against their destiny. Let them walk in the anointing of Samuel, the wisdom of Solomon, and the favor of Esther, in Jesus' name!"

Action Steps:

- 1. Anoint their beds/school bags this week
- 2. Write Scriptures on their mirrors/notebooks
- 3. Share David's story to teach them about destiny

Remember: **Natural parenting + spiritual covering = unstoppable children.** Your prayers turn them into **God's secret weapons** for this generation!

"All thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children." (Isaiah 54:13). The battle is the Lord's—parent in peace!

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