

Open Heaven 17 June 2026 Today Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heaven 17 June 2026 devotional for today is CHILDREN BELONG TO GOD.

This is a daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

- **Read:** **RCCG Open Heaven 16 June 2026 Devotional**



OPEN HEAVEN 17 JUNE 2026 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: CHILDREN BELONG TO GOD

MEMORISE:

Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: And the fruit of the womb is his reward.
Psalm 127:3

READ: Judges 13:6-14

6 Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, A man of God came unto me, and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel of God, very terrible: but I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his name:
7 But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.
8 Then Manoah intreated the Lord, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.
9 And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came again unto the woman as

she sat in the field: but Manoah her husband was not with her.
10 And the woman made haste, and ran, and shewed her husband, and said unto him, Behold, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the other day.

11 And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am.
12 And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?
13 And the angel of the Lord said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware.
14 She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 17 JUNE 2026 TODAY MESSAGE

Many years ago, when my children were still little, one of them fell terribly ill. We had already made Jesus our Great Physician, so whenever anyone fell sick in our family, we would simply pray, and God would heal the fellow.

In this instance, however, I prayed to God, worshipped Him, and did everything I knew to do for the boyâ??s health to be restored, but he did not get better. In my frustration, I asked, â??Lord, why have You refused to heal my son?â?• and God responded, â??He is your son; why donâ??t you heal him yourself?â?• I immediately realised my mistake and said, â??Iâ??m sorry, Lord, he is Your son; please heal Your son.â?• Within an hour, the boy was back on his feet, playing around.

Parents do not own their children; they are only caretakers. Children are gifts from God, so the owner of children is God Himself (Psalm 127:3); therefore, they are to be taken care of according to His will. Parents who fail to realise that their children belong to God will tend to raise them contrary to His plan. When an angel appeared to Manoah and his wife to tell them that they would give birth to a son, Manoah asked a crucial question that every parent should ask about the children God gives them:

â?¦How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him? Judges 13:12

Manoah understood that the child they were about to give birth to was from God and belonged to Him.

He knew that he was limited as a person in knowing the best way to teach and nurture the child. After asking the crucial question above, the angel gave him and his wife specific instructions on what to avoid during her pregnancy and how to raise the child after birth.

Parents should not lean on their understanding when raising children. They should not try to raise the children God has committed into their care the way others are doing it, because He has customised instructions for raising every child. If you are a parent, ask God to show you how He wants you to raise His child(ren) in your custody.

Furthermore, donâ??t be tempted to own the child(ren) God has put in your care. Always involve Him in your decisions concerning His child(ren), and He will help you to raise them to fulfil His purpose for their lives, in Jesusâ?? name.

KEY POINT:

Parents must let God guide them in how to raise the children He has entrusted to their care.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Psalms 69-72

Open Heavens HYMN 33: GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH!

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 17 JUNE 2026 COMMENTARY

MEMORISE: Psalm 127:3

> *â??Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.â?•*

This verse establishes the divine ownership of children. Daddy Adeboye anchors todayâ??s devotional on this text because it corrects a fundamental misunderstanding among parents. The word â??heritageâ?• (or â??inheritanceâ?•) indicates something given in trust, not something owned outright. Children are not possessions; they are a sacred trust from God. They are â??His rewardâ?• â??meaning God is the giver, and He remains the ultimate owner. Parents are stewards, caretakers, and guardians, but never owners. Every parent who forgets this will raise their children according to their own wisdom rather than Godâ??s purpose.

BIBLE READING: Judges 13:6-14

This passage tells the story of the angelic announcement of Samsonâ??s birth. Manoah and his wife were barren, but God sent an angel to tell them they would have a son. When Manoah heard this, he did not assume he knew how to raise the child. Instead, he asked a crucial question: *â??How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?â?•* (Judges 13:12). The angel gave specific instructions: the mother must not drink wine or strong drink, eat anything unclean, or cut the childâ??s hair. Daddy Adeboye uses this to show that God has customized instructions for every child. Parents who do not seek those instructions will raise their children in their own limited understanding rather than Godâ??s perfect plan.

Daddy Adeboyeâ??s Testimony: The Son Who Would Not Heal

1. The Familyâ??s Prayer Habit

Daddy Adeboye shares a powerful personal testimony about his own child:

> *â??Many years ago, when my children were still little, one of them fell terribly ill. We had already made Jesus our Great Physician, so whenever anyone fell sick in our family, we would simply pray, and God would heal the fellow.â?•*

This was the familyâ??s established pattern. Prayer was their first resort, not their last. Daddy Adeboye had seen God heal repeatedly. He expected the same result.

> *â??In this instance, however, I prayed to God, worshipped Him, and did everything I knew to do for the boyâ??s health to be restored, but he did not get better.â?•*

Daddy Adeboye did everything he knew. He prayed. He worshipped. He used all the spiritual tools that had worked before. But the boy remained sick.

2. The Lordâ??s Correction

> *â??In my frustration, I asked, â??Lord, why have You refused to heal my son?â?? and God responded, â??He is your son; why donâ??t you heal him yourself?'â?•*

This response is stunning. God was not refusing to heal. God was pointing out a fundamental error in Daddy Adeboyeâ??s thinking: **ownership**.

Daddy Adeboyeâ??s Words	Godâ??s Correction
â??My sonâ?• (possession, ownership)	â??He is your sonâ?• (acknowledging the claim of ownership)
â??Why have You refused to heal my son?â?•	â??Why donâ??t you heal him yourself?â?• (If he is yours, the responsibility is yours)

> *â??I immediately realised my mistake and said, â??Iâ??m sorry, Lord, he is Your son; please heal Your son.â?? Within an hour, the boy was back on his feet, playing around.â?•*

The moment Daddy Adeboye corrected his confessionâ??from â??my sonâ?• to â??Your sonâ?•â??the healing came. Within *one hour*. This is not magic; it is alignment with divine truth. God heals His own children. When you acknowledge that your children belong to Him, He takes full responsibility for them.

The Parent as Caretaker, Not Owner

1. The Biblical Foundation (Psalm 127:3)

> *â??Parents do not own their children; they are only caretakers. Children are gifts from God, so the owner of children is God Himself; therefore, they are to be taken care of according to*

His will.â?•

Wrong Mindset (Owner)	Right Mindset (Caretaker)
â??This is my child, I will raise them my wayâ?•	â??This is Godâ??s child, entrusted to me for a seasonâ?•
â??I know what is best for my childâ?•	â??God knows what is best; I must seek His instructionsâ?•
â??My child, my rules, my plansâ?•	â??Godâ??s child, Godâ??s rules, Godâ??s plansâ?•
Anxiety about the childâ??s future	Trust in the true Ownerâ??s faithfulness

â??Parents who fail to realise that their children belong to God will tend to raise them contrary to His plan.â?•

This is the tragedy of modern parenting. Believing they own their children, parents make decisions based on culture, convenience, ambition, or fearâ??entirely missing Godâ??s customized plan for that specific child.

2. Manoahâ??s Model Question (Judges 13:12)

â??Manoah understood that the child they were about to give birth to was from God and belonged to Him. He knew that he was limited as a person in knowing the best way to teach and nurture the child.â?•

Manoahâ??s Humility	The Common Parental Error
â??I donâ??t know how to raise this child properlyâ?•	â??I know whatâ??s best for my childâ?•
â??God, You give the instructionsâ?•	â??Culture, peers, and my parents will guide meâ?•
The child belongs to God, so Godâ??s plan matters most	The child is mine, so my plan matters most

â??After asking the crucial question above, the angel gave him and his wife specific instructions on what to avoid during her pregnancy and how to raise the child after birth.â?•

God answered Manoah. God will answer you. But you must ask the question: *â??Lord, how shall I order this child?â?•*

Every Child Has Customised Instructions

1. No Cookie-Cutter Parenting

â??Parents should not lean on their understanding when raising children. They should not try to raise the children God has committed into their care the way others are doing it, because He has customised instructions for raising every child.â?•

What Works for One Child	What Another Child Needs
Strict discipline	Gentle guidance
Academic pressure	Vocational encouragement
Early independence	Extended nurturing
Public school	Homeschool or Christian school
Many extracurriculars	Focused development of one gift

â??If you are a parent, ask God to show you how He wants you to raise His child(ren) in your custody.â?•

This is not a suggestion; it is a command. Parenting without divine consultation is parenting in the dark. You cannot raise a child for a destiny you do not know.

2. What Customised Instructions May Include

Based on Manoahâ??s experience and Scripture, Godâ??s instructions for raising a child may involve:

Area	Possible Divine Instruction
Spiritual	â??Set this child apart from birth; do not let them follow worldly patternsâ?•
Educational	â??This child needs a different school, a different approach, or a different timingâ?•
Social	â??Protect this child from certain friendships; expose them to certain mentorsâ?•
Vocational	â??This child is not for medicine/law/business; I have another pathâ?•
Discipline	â??Do not break this childâ??s spirit; do not be too lenient; find the balanceâ?•

Practical Steps for Raising God-Owned Children

Based on Daddy Adeboyeâ??s teaching and Manoahâ??s example, here is how to parent as a caretaker:

1. Change Your Confession

Stop saying â??my childâ?• as if you are the owner. Say:

- â??The child God has entrusted to meâ?•
- â??Godâ??s child in my careâ?•

- â??The heritage of the Lordâ?•

Your confession shapes your mentality. When you speak of your children as Godâ??s property, you will treat them as Godâ??s property.

2. Ask the Crucial Question

Daddy Adeboye instructs:

> *â??Always involve Him in your decisions concerning His child(ren).â?•*

For every major decision (and many minor ones), ask God:

- â??How shall I discipline this child?â?•
- â??What school should they attend?â?•
- â??What friends should I encourage or discourage?â?•
- â??What gifts are hidden in them that I need to develop?â?•
- â??What battles should I fight for them, and what battles should they fight themselves?â?•

3. Receive Specific Instructions

Do not settle for general principles. Manoah did not ask for general parenting advice. He asked for specific instructions for *this* child. God gave them. Expect the same.

How God May Speak	Examples
Through Scripture	A verse that leaps off the page about parenting
Through the Holy Spirit	An inner conviction or peace about a direction
Through godly counsel	A pastor, elder, or experienced parent who speaks wisdom
Through circumstances	Doors opening or closing that confirm a path

4. Follow the Instructions Even When They Donâ??t Make Sense

The angelâ??s instructions to Manoah included things that seemed unusual (no razor on the childâ??s head, no wine for the mother during pregnancy). Similarly, Godâ??s instructions for your child may not align with what other parents are doing. Obey anyway.

5. Trust the True Owner with the Results

When you acknowledge that your children belong to God, your anxiety decreases. You are not ultimately responsible for how they turn outâ??God is. You are responsible for obedience; He is responsible for the outcome.

Warning: The Danger of Owning Your Children

Daddy Adeboyeâ??s testimony contains an implicit warning:

If You Act Like the Owner	Consequences
You raise them according to your wisdom, not Godâ??s	They may miss their destiny
You carry burdens you were never meant to carry	Anxiety, frustration, burnout
You pray with wrong assumptions	Prayers go unanswered (as Daddy Adeboyeâ??s healing prayer was initially unanswered)
You will be held accountable for misusing Godâ??s property	â??Who then is the faithful and wise steward?â?• (Luke 12:42)

â??Donâ??t be tempted to own the child(ren) God has put in your care.â?•

The temptation is strong. You carried them, birthed them, fed them, sacrificed for them. It feels like they are yours. But the feeling is deceit. They are His. He just let you borrow them for a time.

Additional Principles for Raising Godâ??s Children

1. Dedicate Them Back to God

Like Hannah dedicated Samuel (1 Samuel 1:27-28), publicly and privately declare: *â??Lord, this child is Yours. I am only a caretaker.â?•*

2. Pray for Them Specifically

Do not pray generic prayers: â??Lord, bless my child.â?• Pray: â??Lord, show me how to raise this specific child. Reveal their purpose. Protect Your plan for their life.â?•

3. Correct Your Confession When You Slip

Every time you catch yourself saying â??my childâ?• with a sense of ownership, stop and correct it: *â??Lord, I mean Your child whom You have entrusted to me.â?•*

4. Involve God in the Small Things

Manoah asked about ordering the child *before* the child was born. Do not wait for crises. Involve God in daily decisions: bedtimes, screen limits, friendships, discipline.

5. Release Them When the Time Comes

One day, God may call His child away from your homeâ??to another city, another country, another vocation, or even to Himself in death. Because they are His, you must release them without bitterness.

Conclusion: Your Prayer for Godâ??s Children in Your Care

Daddy Adeboye closes with a prayer that God will help you raise His children to fulfill His purpose. Pray this prayer over every child in your care.

Pray this:

> *â??Father, I thank You for the precious children You have entrusted to me. Forgive me for the times I have acted as if they belong to meâ??making decisions without consulting You, carrying burdens You never gave me, and forgetting that they are Yours first. Today, I repent. I acknowledge that these children are Your heritage, not my possessions. I ask You the question Manoah asked: â??How shall I order this child? How shall I do unto them?â?? Give me customized instructions for each one. Show me how to discipline, educate, nurture, and release them for Your purpose. I will not lean on my understanding. I will not raise them the way the world raises children. I will follow Your instructions, even when they seem unusual. And I trust You, the true Owner, with their future. In Jesusâ?? mighty name.â?•*

Action Steps:

1. **The Ownership Audit:** Examine your heart. Do you secretly think of your children as your property? Write down the areas where you have made decisions without consulting God. Confess the sin of ownership.
2. **The Manoah Question:** Set aside one hour this week to pray specifically for each child (or future child) in your care. Ask God: *â??How shall I order this child?â?•* Write down whatever impression, Scripture, or instruction comes to mind. Act on it.
3. **The Confession Change:** For the next 30 days, deliberately refer to your children as â??Godâ??s child in my careâ?• rather than â??my child.â?• Let your words retrain your heart.

> *â??Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.â?•* (Psalm 127:3)
> **You are not the owner; you are the caretaker. Ask God for His instructions. Raise His children for His purpose. And watch Him take full responsibility for His own.**

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