

Praying for those you know well

1. Look for negative or sinful habits in the person's life. Pray against the hold these habits have. Pray that he or she will be convicted by the Holy Spirit to repent of these things and become a new creation in Christ.

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2. If the person associates with people who affect his/her life negatively, pray for the breaking up of this influence/friendship/relationship that draws or keeps the person away from Christ. (2 Corinthians 6:14)

¹⁴ Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

3. If there are certain activities that influence the person's life in a negative way, pray that they will be replaced with positive activities and/or that the negative influence becomes powerless. (Galatians 5:1)

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

4. Pray that any negative experiences from the person's past will be healed in such a way that Christ's power is evident. (Romans 6:1-4)

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

5. Pray with precise prayers of authority. (2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

6. Praise God for His victory over the power of the enemy. (Psalm 44:4-8; John 16:33)

You are my King and my God, who decrees victories for Jacob. ⁵ Through you we push back our enemies; through your name we trample our foes. ⁶ I put no trust in my bow, my sword does not bring me victory; ⁷ but you give us victory over our enemies, you put our adversaries to shame. ⁸ In God we make our boast all day long, and we will praise your name forever.

³³ "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

(adapted from "Praying for your unsaved family and friends", Harvest Prayer Ministries)