

CHAPTER 18 - Praying Through A Child's Room from *The Power of a Praying Parent* by Stormie Omartian

When my son was about eleven, he suddenly started having nightmares for no apparent reason. He hadn't seen anything frightening in a movie or on TV and he gave us no indication that anything out of the ordinary had happened to him. We prayed with him several times, but night after night the bad dreams persisted.

As I was praying alone about this one morning, I asked God to show me what was causing these nightmares. As I did, I felt strongly led to go to my son's room. "Lord, if there is anything in Christopher's room that shouldn't be here, show me," I prayed. Immediately, I felt prompted to go to his computer and look at his games. The first game I picked up was one he had borrowed from a friend at church. The outside of the box looked totally harmless; it was just a boy's action-adventure game. I opened the box and pulled out the small instruction booklet. The first few pages revealed nothing unusual, but in the back pages I found the worst kind of satanic garbage. I was shocked, but I said, "Thank you, Jesus," and took the game out of his room immediately.

If the game had been my son's property, I would have destroyed it immediately. But since it belonged to someone else, I called the boy's parents and told them what I had found. They were as surprised and unaware as we had been. When Christopher got home from school, I showed him what I had discovered. He said he hadn't gotten that far in the game yet and didn't realize what was in it. He had no hesitation about giving it back.

When my husband came home, we anointed our son's room with oil and thoroughly prayed through it. We knew the Bible said, "[The yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil](#)" (Isaiah 10:27). And although most of the biblical examples of that are of people being anointed, there are also examples of buildings or rooms being anointed to sanctify them. "You shall take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it; and you shall hallow it and all its utensils, and it shall be holy" (Exodus 40:9). Because we wanted to break any yoke of the enemy and cleanse our son's room of anything unholy, we anointed the doorpost and prayed over his room, inviting the Holy Spirit to dwell there and crowd out anything that was not of God.

The proof to us that we had done the right thing was that Christopher's nightmares stopped immediately—just as suddenly as they began.

Everyone's house needs a spiritual housecleaning from time to time, especially in the rooms where our children sleep and play. The Bible says if we bring anything detestable into our homes, we bring destruction along with it. A holy housecleaning should be done periodically as a matter of principle, but definitely whenever you feel troubled by something in your child. If he or she is becoming fearful, rebellious, angry, depressed, distant, strange, a disciplinary problem, or having bad dreams and nightmares, sometimes simply praying through the room can change things quickly. Singing Christian songs, hymns, and worship choruses in the room is also very effective, and I've seen a change of spirit in my children after I have done so.

I know one mother and father who battled a heavy enemy stronghold of alcohol, drugs, rebellion, and occult involvement in their sixteen-year-old son by playing Christian worship songs and the Word of God on tape in his room while he was at school. His rebelliousness was eventually broken and he became a peaceful and godly person.

When you pray through your child's room, remove anything that is not glorifying to God: posters, books, magazines, pictures, photos, games, or articles of clothing depicting drug or alcohol use or any kind of blasphemy. Of course God's Word on this should be lovingly explained to the child and, if at all possible, he should be encouraged to remove the offensive articles himself. Explain that for his own peace and blessing he must clean the room of anything that is not of the Lord. Then pray over the room thoroughly. I've seen miraculous transformations as a result of doing that.

This is not a superstitious little ritual. This is a powerful claiming of your home, your child, and all aspects of his life for God. It's standing up and proclaiming, "[As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord](#)" (Joshua 24:15). It's saying, "My home is sanctified and set apart for God's glory."

Let's start our spiritual housecleaning by praying through our children's rooms even before the need arises.

PRAYER

Lord, I invite Your Holy Spirit to dwell in this room, which belongs to (name of child). You are Lord over heaven and earth, and I proclaim that You are Lord over this room as well. Flood it with Your light and life. Crowd out any darkness which seeks to impose itself here, and let no spirits of fear, depression, anger, doubt, anxiety, rebelliousness, or hatred (name anything you've seen manifested in your child's behavior) find any place here. I pray that nothing will come into this room that is not brought by You, Lord. If there is anything here that shouldn't be, show me so it can be taken out.

Put Your complete protection over this room so that evil cannot enter here by any means. Fill this room with Your love, peace, and joy. I pray that my child will say, as David did, "I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set nothing wicked before my eyes" (Psalm 101:2—3). I pray that You, Lord, will make this room a holy place, sanctified for Your glory.

WEAPONS OF WARFARE

Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it. Deuteronomy 7:26

Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil. Isaiah 1:16

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2 Corinthians 7:1

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Psalm 51:1-2

The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the habitation of the just. Proverbs 3:33