

## The Year of Sowing

### Prayer Guide

#### Week 25

### The Year of Sowing – Family – To Strengthen the Church

*"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.*

#### Ephesians 5:31-32 (NKJV)



**Prayer Focus:** God's design of the family is a part of His design of all levels of society, and that includes the Church. When the family is operating as God intends, society and the Church are strengthened and blessed. Therefore, it is important that we understand how the family is designed to function. It is exactly for this reason that the family is under attack in these days. If the enemy can undermine the integrity of the family, he can weaken both society and the Church. It is for this reason that relationships between husband and wife is being attacked and false forms are being presented to substitute for God's plan. Relationships between parents and children are being attacked and the authority of parents in the family is being undermined. As believers, we need to be awake and aware of these attacks on the family, and understand what is God's design for the family. A Biblically functioning family will reflect the relationship between Christ and the Church, His bride. These pictures of family relationship in the Bible are a part of God's perfect plan to bring blessing to the family, society and the church. Let us apply ourselves to understand clearly God's design for the family so that the church will be strengthened through healthy, vibrant families.

**Day 1:** Ask the Lord to show you His design for your family in His Word.

**Day 2:** Explore together the teachings in Scripture concerning the family. You may need to learn some new ways of relating.

**Day 3:** Repent of any ways that you have not been following God blueprint for your family.

**Day 4:** Pray to have hearts open to the teaching of God's Word concerning your family.

**Day 5:** Pray for the families in your church to be functioning as God designed and strengthen your church.

**Day 6:** Pray that other churches in your city would be teaching the Biblical principles of the family.

**Day 7:** Pray for your missionaries today to have strong families on the mission field. The challenges are many.