



## For This Child I Prayed

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Happy Birthday to Our Son!

“...I prayed for this child, and God gave me what I asked for. And now I have dedicated him to God. He’s dedicated to God for life.” Then and there, they worshiped God.” **1 Samuel 1:25-28 MSG**

Reflecting upon this month of March, I am reminded of one of the greatest gifts my husband and I have received in this life; *our son, Christopher*. My heart and mind returns to the many wonderful gifts I have been given; Like when Jesus came to make his home in my heart for over 50 years, a creative miracle of new teeth at 13 years old which revealed the mighty love and power of my heavenly Father, and my husband of 37 years who loves and cares for me.



I rejoice at all these wonderful things and yes my heart rejoices at the gift of a child. You see for over 14 years, we tried to have a baby only to be disappointed month after month, yet continuing to believe that I would be the mother of many children. Through the years of pastoring, I had many spiritual children that I rejoiced over. Yet the day our son was born, my heart broke forth in a new way of rejoicing and gratitude that the child we had prayed for, had finally come to pass.

Our son will be 23 years old this month and he has brought joy and love into our family and hearts. Is he perfect? Not in the way people define perfection, but he is perfect to us. You see, a parent’s love doesn’t stop because their child may make different choices than what we as parents would choose for them. We stand back and experience the emotional pain when he is hurting or when he comes up short. Still we are always there to lift him up and bring him encouragement.

I’m reminded that our Heavenly Father continues to love us, encourage us, and turn our lives around, even when we make choices He would not have desired for us. Not at all! Jesus doesn’t abandon us for He loves us unconditionally and let’s us know He is always there when we call on Him or reach out to Him.

“Be strong. Take courage. Don’t be intimidated. Don’t give them a second thought because God, your God, is striding ahead of you. He’s right there with you. He won’t let you down; he won’t leave you.”” **Deuteronomy 31:6 MSG**

Despite the love we have for our son, we both realize that our Heavenly Father loves him more than we ever could. So we put our trust in Jesus to direct our son’s life and bring him to the place that He has for him. It’s exciting to watch Jesus work in our children’s lives and lead them to a real relationship with Him beyond what we as parents could ever hope for and desire.

Happy Birthday Son, this will be  
your best year ever!



“For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations” **Psalm 100:5 (ESV)**