

Prayer for the Strong Willed Child {and His Weak Mama}

Oh Father,

Thank you for this treasure-child, this grace-teacher who keeps me humble. You know the good *and* hard stuff that comes with raising him, and how I fret over feeling ill equipped. Help me remember I have your easy yoke and light burden {Matthew 11:29-31} to lean on and learn from, and that You spill **overflowing grace** all over my parenting gaps.

Help him see the behavior in me I want to see in him. His eagle eyes see *and* hear my actions most. When he pushes boundaries and argues limits, give me your supernatural ability to make the situation better, not worse. Don't let me fuel the storm with hot-tempered, windy words. **May I diffuse the unstable air with words *and* behavior that define grace and peace.** Make me a gentle wind that blows him towards You.

Open my eyes to those times he genuinely needs more room to test his wings. Make me see the difference between downright disrespect that needs correcting and reigns that need loosening.

Help me see the sneaky, ugly roots of **pride** growing so I may yank them out at the roots.

Help me see past the tough exterior to the insecure interior and build him up with the best tool around: your Word. Help me seal the cracks by freely and generously lending love {Psalms 37:26} so I represent You well. Show me how to mold his passion into faith that moves mountains. {Matthew 17:20}.

May his strong-willed bent lend itself to a **firm foundation** built on nothing but **Christ**.

Turn to dust and windblown chaff {Isaiah 41:2} anything standing in the way of a full and healthy relationship with You. Give me wisdom on how to build up – not break down – our relationship. **I am weak, but You are strong.** Carry us both today and always.

In the mighty name of **Jesus**,

{And all the mamas of strong willed babies said...}

Amen