

A Prayer for the Military Spouse (Husband)

Dear Father who knew this military spouse before he was born,

Who sees all his days lived and those yet to be lived.

And who holds in his hands a string of all his moments--his joys and his trials.

The One who promises to twine them all into a trail toward good.

Bless him in his struggles, lift him when he stumbles, and carry him in his sorrows.

When he has a to-do list miles long but is worn out from starting over, show him how to simply start with the next small thing. **Nothing has to be done today but the *next small thing*.**

When he's tired out from filling many rolls beyond husband (and dad), freshen him with the knowledge that you are a God who works in countless ways to fill his empty places, to be what he cannot.

When he's hungry for real community, provide him with friendships that last beyond state lines and country borders, *friends that feel like family*.

When loneliness comes close, *may he feel you come closer still*.

When he's depleted of resources and bare as the kitchen cabinets, fill him to the brim with your hope that says *you got this, son, because I got you*.

Nourish his weary places with your Spirit.

Be there for his children, providing them with the security of home found best in people not places.

Provide for him by bringing his children good, *for-them* friends who invite them to their lunchroom table, their neighborhood games, and their kind-natured hearts.

Provide this brave man with soul stability that relies on a steady, Rock-solid foundation (Psalm 18:2).

When hard goodbyes--and difficult hellos--land on his doorstep, may he get *through* them by welcoming the **faith and trust** that walk *with* them.

When deployment looms, may he know he is as cared for during his wife's absence as during her presence.

Help him to release all his fears to you, the One who wants all of them (Psalm 34:4).

And when his wife comes to him with hard stories from difficult places, may the ears of his heart be ready to listen as she's ready to share.

Cloak him in your mercy as he waits, waits, and waits some more.

Be his mirror that reflects an accurate vision of himself so he knows he is already enough--*right here, right now*.

When he feels no adoration for his location, may he know his assignment is authored by you-- the One who determined *the exact places he should live* (Acts 17:26).

May he know the indescribable value of his own service and sacrifice as a true hero at home.

Let him know that nothing is gained from having it all together, and real men know to confide in safe brother-friends.

Let him know that the toughest of men bring Christ's love into their broken places.

And may he understand that you, Lord, build strong things from broken things.

May gratitude be his default reaction because **gratitude precedes miracles**. Because you refuse to let the hard things be wasted things.

And from dawn's early light to dusk's fading away, may **laughter** find him and **grace** feed him.

And may your love protect him and your hope heal him.

In the name of your Son, Jesus, who loves him mightily,

Amen