The 7 Mountains Of Influence—FAMILY
Philadelphia House of Prayer – Pastora Claudia Londono

In an era of soccer moms, little-league dads, and tiara queen toddlers, many people believe American culture has become more child-centric than ever. If this shift is legitimate, however, it is failing to yield good fruit for nourishing the family structure. Families have never been as fragmented as they are today, and our modern cultural progression - or digression, in most cases - continues to wear away at the core unit of society. Focus on the Family recently identified at least five major threats every family faces in our current culture:

1. Changing definitions of family
2. Increasing child vulnerability
3. Diminishing parental influence and authority
4. Growing financial pressures
5. Diminishing family intimacy

There are five specific shifts intercessors can pray against as they use their words to shield families from the enemy’s continuous onslaught. Yet there are other prayer points we must hold up in the spirit.

- Declare marriage will remain the foundation of the family unit.

“Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord… Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her… Children, obey your parents and mother (Which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”
Ephesians 5:22, 25; 6:2-3

This seems basic enough, yet it is no secret that the enemy has released a full-fledged, multifrontal assault against the institution of marriage.

- Pray marriages are restored.

“Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children; That the generation to come might know them, The children who would be born, That they may arise and declare them to their children, That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments;”
Psalm 78:3-7

This involves praying for healing in marriages fractured by affairs, alcoholism, pornography, drug addictions, and other vices the enemy uses to tear husbands and wives apart. We must intercede against the spirit of abuse and violence that has established such a stronghold in enough households that it affects a quarter of all women in the United States. As intercessors, we can stand in the gap for those who have no hope of mending the breaches in their marriage. God is certainly powerful enough to overcome whatever damage and destruction Satan has managed to cause. But in addition to the relational attacks the enemy brings, we must also be on the offensive against the demonic shift in legal courtrooms that are attempting to change the very meaning of the word marriage. Whoever controls the language controls the culture. And today, more than ever, it is crucial that we pray for the term to be restored to its original intent: the union of a man and a woman.

- Declare the Family Mountain will stand for life.

“The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord Shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing, To declare that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”
Psalm 92:12-15

It is not just believers who need to be pro-life. Our entire culture’s future depends on how well we defend the unborn. If we continue on our current path of not only allowing abortion but actually having a governmental system that supports it, we will end up as other nations have when the next generation is killed off before ever having a voice. Most Americans know about China’s population control policy that resulted in families killing or abandoning millions of baby girls. In that culture, it was a case of families wanting a son for honor, in air culture, it has become amateur of convenience. The spirit of abortion is an immense demonic force, rooted in the practice of child sacrifice to Molech (see leviticus 18:21), which intercessors must wage
war against and destroy. Prior to the 2008 national elections, I discovered a statement on a Catholic website that I found particularly prophetic in its call for those on the Family Mountain: “The family must be strengthened, not redefined. Human life is paramount from conception to natural death. Now, more than any time in history, a new generation must stand for truth. The strength of our nation is not only in its military or economic power, but in our commitment to moral values for the good of the world. We can protect the values that this great nation was build on: life, faith and family.

- Pray parents would step up as the authority in the home and would model godly behavior.

“A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; But the rebellious dwell in a dry land.” Psalm 68:5-6

If there has been a cultural shift with the family structure now revolving around children, it can be pinpointed to this aspect. When parents are passive, they fail to establish the boundaries necessary for healthy growth in their children. The result is a child-centric, child-dominated household where parents rarely reflect God’s model of family leadership. Sadly, many parents today have abdicated their authority to the Education Mountain and the Religion Mountain, expecting those upon these mountain to raise their children for them. We must pray for fathers to be proactive in leading their families not only in words, but also in actions such as scheduling family times together. And we must pray for mothers to understand how to partner with their husbands in establishing a healthy, nurturing environment. Parents are often the most prominent mirrors of God in their children’s lives; they need our intercession to not only reflect an image of Christlikeness, but to train their children to succeed in life by embracing godly values. Remember, parents are usually the main encouragement children receive to pursue their destiny upon any of the Seven Mountains.

- Renounce family curses from previous generations and release blessings upon the next generation.

“As for Me,” says the Lord, “this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants’ descendants,” says the Lord, “from this time and forevermore.” Isaiah 59:21

Generational curses and blessings are not magic spells found in fairy tales; they are real and more common than most people realize.

- Pray Christian families will recognize how to engage in spiritual warfare.

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.” Malachi 4:5-6

It is time for us to take up the same call that Nehemiah gave almost 2,500 years ago: “When I saw their fear, I rose and spoke to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people: “Do not be afraid of them; remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives and your houses” (Neh. 4:14, emphasis added). Make no mistake: Satan is out to destroy as many families as he can -yours and mine included. We must recognize how to combat his assault in the spirit and natural realms with intercession.