

# The Family Time

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By: *Pastor Cameron Bowen*



*Genesis 12:7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.*

*Genesis 12:8 And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, [having] Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.*

It is important that I spend some time making absolutely sure that you understand that there is a fundamental need to develop a lifestyle of prayerfulness, if we are ever going to be overcomers, in this life and in the life to come.

**Prayer Makes a Hedge about Children.**--In the morning the Christian's first thoughts should be upon God. Worldly labor and self-interest should be secondary. Children should be taught to respect and reverence the hour of prayer. . . . **It is the duty of Christian parents, morning and evening, by earnest prayer and persevering faith, to make a hedge about their children.** They should patiently instruct them--kindly and untiringly teach them how to live in order to please God. *{Child Guidance 519.3}*

**Why is this so important? Why should we maintain a direct and continuous line of communication with our Father in Heaven? Listen to this!!**

- 1.** A guardian angel is appointed to every follower of Christ.
- 2.** These heavenly watchers shield the righteous from the power of the wicked one.
- 3.** This Satan himself recognized when he said, "Doth Job fear God for naught? Hast not thou made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side?" [Job 1:9, 10.]
- 4.** The agency by which God protects his people is presented in the words of the psalmist, "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them." [Psalm 34:7.]
- 5.** Said the Saviour, speaking of those that believe in him, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in Heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father." [Matthew 18:10.]
- 6.** The angels appointed to minister to the children of God have at all times access to his presence. *{GC 512.2}*

This is an army of protection, more advanced better trained, than any other force in the universe. These Special Forces have never lost a client, never failed an assignment.

**God's people, exposed to the deceptive power and unsleeping malice of the prince of darkness, and in conflict with all the forces of evil, are assured of the unceasing guardianship of heavenly angels. Nor is such assurance given without need; If God has granted to his children promise of grace and protection, it is because there are mighty agencies of evil to be met,—agencies numerous, determined, and untiring, of whose malignity and power none can safely be ignorant or unheeding. {GC 513.1}**



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**The reason for the struggles we encounter is because the enemy plots and plans our destruction, daily.**

A striking example of their number, power, and malignity, and also of the power and mercy of Christ, is given in the Scripture account of the healing of the demoniacs at Gadara. Those wretched maniacs, spurning all restraint, writhing, foaming, raging, were filling the air with their cries, doing violence to themselves, and endangering all who should approach them. Their bleeding and disfigured bodies and distracted minds presented a spectacle well-pleasing to the prince of darkness. One of the demons controlling the sufferers declared, "My name is Legion; for we are many." [Mark 5:9.] In the Roman army a legion consisted of from three to five thousand men. Satan's hosts also are marshaled in companies, and the single company to which these demons belonged numbered no less than a legion. *{GC 514.2}*

**We must pray, daily. We must maintain that necessary connection to Our Father which art in Heaven.**