

**PRAYERS
OF A CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR (5)**

(1: 16-9-C-63; 2:17-13-C-73;
3: 18-15-C-79; 4: 19-12-C-81)

GENTLENESS, PRUDENCE...

Lord,
the children we educate are persons.
We must remember that when we correct them.
Grant us, Lord,
the spirit of patience and understanding
so that when we correct or scold them
it will be for the good of the student
rather than
the relief of our frustration
or to get even.

Punishment and scolding when done with love
though they may hurt,
are like medicines that heal.

Lord, it would be so nice to know
that children and young people understand
that their faults and disobedience
must be corrected;
that the constraints and punishments
will be determined
by justice, kindness and understanding,
for their own real good.

To be an apostle-educator is a sublime mission;
it also has its suffering and difficulties.

Show us, Lord,
how to correct with gentleness and charity.
Move the hearts of our students
to admit their faults.
Strengthen their wills
that they may change their ways.

The prophet Nathan approached David kindly
when he upbraided him,
and David recognized his sin and repented.

Lord, keep us from giving vent to our anger
when we must correct or punish.
On the contrary,
help us to keep in mind the good of the student.

When we proceed with kindness and charity,
children and youth profit more.
So did David with Nathan:
«Lord, I have sinned».

Prudent correction helps those who receive it
to correct their faults.
When done with anger or passion,
the students withdraw from the teacher.
Corrections and punishments
given with love and zeal
are accepted
and become effective.

Lord,
make our hearts big enough and good enough
to correct with kindness
for the good of the students.

Lord,
prepare the souls
of these children and young people
to accept the soft sting of discipline
and to help them see how it will better
their lives.

Lord,
We really want the best for our students
and we are willing
to educate with discipline and gentleness.

A MINISTER OF SALVATION

We are your co-workers, Lord.

Children are the field You wish to cultivate
through us
because You, Lord,
have confided to us the ministry of education.

Search the depths of our hearts;
grant us the strength to be your ministers,
grant us fortitude in the use of the talents
which You have given us.
And keep us from becoming mired in routine.

Each day we pray to You.
Each day we examine who we are and what we do.
Thanks for what You have done in us,
and we ask Your forgiveness for our forgetfulness.

You, Lord,
have given us numerous gifts and graces
to do what is right in our mission.
Grant us the will to live our consecration fully.

Lord,
You make no distinction
between the duties of our salvation
and the duties of our ministry.
As we lead and guide our students
we are at the same time saving our souls.

Lord,
we accept the responsibilities of education.
We also count on your help and support
for the success of our efforts.
Send Your grace and Your light
to make up for our ignorance and weakness.

Jesus, when You said:
«Go and teach all nations»
You sent us to instruct children and youth,
You sent us that they might learn piety.
You gave us the mission
to build the Young Church.

We thank You, Lord,
for giving us Your WORD – the Gospel,
and Your SACRAMENTS,
which sanctify and purify our lives
and which move the hearts of our students.

Children are special to You,
«Let the little children come to Me».
They are ready to receive Your grace.
Show us how to educate them to holiness
that they may be in Your image, Lord Jesus.

Children are weak and fragile.
They are easily led by their peers,
by comfort...

Lord,
we will be Your hands, Your eyes, Your lips
to sustain their wills
to direct their lives toward You.
We rely on Your grace.

Bro. Celestino Hernando