

August 24, 2019

## **Local Conference Advance**

**Wayward children.** Losing our children to Satan's wiles may seem like a modern problem and getting worse, but it is as old as Cain, Esau, and the rebellious Israelites. Throughout history people have spurned their godly upbringing and turned their lives in the devil's direction. And concerned parents have always lifted up these dear ones in prayer to the Lord.

A pastor had in one of his churches an elderly couple who grieved for their wayward children, and as time went on, the father died and then the mother, never seeing their prayers answered.

Following the mother's passing, he called up the daughter and asked if it would be alright to visit her, and she said yes. When he entered the home, the smell of cigarettes was present. Other signs of spiritual need were evident in her home as well. But the visit went well and was pleasant, and finally he asked her, "Have you ever considered coming back into the church?" And wonder of wonders, she replied, "Yes, pastor, I have!" So, Bible studies began, she started attending church, and one by one the worldly ways fell by the wayside. Finally came the day of her baptism. Later she became the secretary of the local academy principal.

Can you picture that joyful reunion when Jesus comes, when those blessed parents find their daughter there?

As we give to Conference Advance today, some of our funds will be used for evangelism, and perhaps someone you know will be reclaimed for Jesus!