

180
PRAYERS
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MAN OF
GOD

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All scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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Our mission is to inspire the world with the life-changing message of the Bible.



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INTRODUCTION

The 180 thought-provoking prayers on these pages are written especially for men from a man's perspective. The prayers appeal to the emotions as well as the intellect and draw the heart and mind closer to God by expressing love, contrition, thanksgiving, and supplication.

The text addresses topics of particular interest to men such as morality, integrity, and faithfulness. The book is designed for use during private devotions, but it can be a springboard for discussion in a Sunday school class or a study group.

All prayers begin with a scripture quotation. The verses are compelling reminders that God promises to bless those who speak to Him with humility and live faithfully. Scripture, inspired by God, was given so "That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:17).

HOMECOMING

Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

JUDE 21

Heavenly Father, as the airplane I was in descended through the clouds to land, the ride became bumpy. The plane shook as the lashing rain buffeted it. But after we dipped below the clouds and touched down, the setting sun illuminated everything with a warm glow. At the gate, my family welcomed me home.

Lord, like that airplane flight, a few bumps have reminded me of how blessed the rest of my life has been. When I arrive at my final destination, I will be illuminated by Your light. Those who have gone before me will be there, welcoming me home. Lord, help me prepare for living in a home not made with human hands.

TOUCHING JESUS

*Finally, be ye all of one mind,
having compassion one of another,
love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.*

I PETER 3:8

Lord Jesus, I read in the Bible that by coming to the rescue of those who are hungry and thirsty, I am touching You. Help me never accept pain and suffering as a natural condition. Guide me to show the compassion that You had when You healed the sick and fed the hungry multitudes. Help me put sympathy into action for those who suffer.

Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your watchful eye upon me. Guide me to bring a concrete expression of love to others who have a physical or emotional crisis. Provide me with the wisdom and the means to relieve the suffering of others.

A PERSONAL PRAYER

*And this is life eternal, that they might know
thee the only true God, and Jesus
Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

JOHN 17:3

Heavenly Father, in this prayer I want to speak to You about myself. I pray that it is not a selfish prayer, for my ultimate goal is to be right with You. Please make a way for me to avoid sin and help me to accept Your forgiveness when I do sin. I long to be right with You. Direct my steps to always be in the path of righteousness.

Father, help me recognize the work You have given me to do, and assist me as I try to glorify You. Stamp Your name on my heart so that I may live eternally in Your presence.

LIGHTING THE DARK

*The night is far spent, the day is at hand:
let us therefore cast off the works of darkness,
and let us put on the armour of light.*

ROMANS 13:12

Heavenly Father, this valley that I walk in has two different aspects depending on the angle of the sun. In the evening, the shadow of a hill casts the valley into deep gloom. But in the early hours of the day, the valley is bright because it faces the morning sun.

Father, what a difference the sun makes in the natural world, and what a difference when I see my life with the light You provide! When I walk through dark passages in my life, I pray that my eyes will be opened to the illumination that You provide. Give me a positive outlook to overcome the dreary times. Keep me in the light of Your blessings.

WHAT UPSETS YOU?

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

GALATIANS 5:17

Heavenly Counselor, I encounter many problems each day. Sometimes they arise from the simple struggles of daily life, like a car with a dead battery or a home with a faulty hot water tank. Keep me from becoming upset because of inanimate objects. Sometimes I have conflicts with people whose business objectives are different from mine. Help me refuse to act improperly in daily give-and-take with others. I too struggle with my own limitations, like forgetfulness. May I never become frustrated by my lack of proficiency.

Father, one conflict I especially want to avoid is one with the Holy Spirit. May I never work against Your purposes.

OPEN-DOOR POLICY

*Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel,
and afterward receive me to glory.*

PSALM 73:24

Lord, I once had a supervisor who had an open-door policy. Whenever I was torn about the best course of action to solve a problem, I would spend a few minutes talking with him. Sometimes he would suggest an option; sometimes he would caution me against an option.

I am thankful, Father, that You have an open-door policy. I can talk to You day or night about the things that trouble me. It is a comfort to know that You are there to listen. I know that You will make clear to me the correct decision.

SETTING A COURSE

*What man is he that feareth the Lord?
him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.*

PSALM 25:12

Lord, I watch the rain and see two raindrops fall only inches apart: one flows to the right, the other flows to the left.

Unlike the raindrops, I have the liberty to choose which direction my life flows. Heavenly Father, keep me from making careless judgments that can develop into frightful consequences. Guide me to choices that lead away from the darkness of sin and into the light of righteousness. Give me Your wisdom as I make choices. I pray that my decisions are based on the values instilled in me by studying Your Word.

TRUST IN THE LORD

*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart;
and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

PROVERBS 3:5

Father, on the way to work I saw a high-rise office building under construction. At dizzying heights, the workers appeared unconcerned as they walked on narrow ribbons of steel. That is something I could not do. Yet, set the same steel beam a few inches above the ground, and I could walk across it without concern.

Father, when I am apprehensive about tasks that need to be done, remind me that Your protective hand is under me. I pray that I will learn to step out in faith, secure in the knowledge that You are there for me.

OVERCOMING FEAR

*Watch ye, stand fast in the faith,
quit you like men, be strong.*

I CORINTHIANS 16:13

Father, I pray that I can overcome fears that hinder me from following in Your footsteps. Fear makes me a liar: I excuse myself by claiming that I don't know how or that I'm not ready. Fear makes me a pretender: I can be fainthearted or hesitant, and I call it patience.

Regardless of the nature of my anxiety, I must press ahead. Lord, may I embrace Your Word in order to drive out irrational concerns that trouble my heart. I pray that I will not allow fear to paralyze me.

GIVING WISE COUNSEL

*Behold, God exalteth by his power:
who teacheth like him?*

JOB 36:22

Lord, the opportunity to shape other lives is both a blessing and an awesome responsibility. Show me how to admonish, correct, and inspire those who come to me for guidance, whether it be at work, at church, or in the community. Help me build relationships founded on trust.

Lord, no one teaches like You; regardless of the circumstances, I pray I will ground my advice in Your Word. Give me the dedication and calm self-assurance to help the people I am mentoring realize higher objectives for their lives. I pray that they will have the conviction to remain on course when I am no longer guiding them.

LOVING UNITY

*Can two walk together,
except they be agreed?*

AMOS 3:3

Dear Lord, I am disheartened to encounter disagreement among those who profess to believe in You: fractured denominations, split congregations, and individuals who no longer speak to one another. We should be pulling together. Unfortunately, I confess that because of my own obstinacy, I have contributed to the lack of harmony.

Lord, I pray that I will be more agreeable, that I will not be arrogant or unreasonable. Guide me to choose the right words that will lead to a better walk with You and with my brothers and sisters in Christ. Remind me that even if I am right, I can still be wrong if my comments are not wrapped in love.

INTELLECTUAL APPEAL

The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

PROVERBS 14:15

Lord, every day my eyes and ears are assailed by those who want to bend my will to their purposes. Testimonies from famous personalities, glittering television advertisements, and half-truths of insincere politicians are all trying to muddle my reasoning so I cannot distinguish between truth and lies. They want me to listen and not ask questions.

Father, help me use the abilities You have given me to carefully evaluate the claims of those who try to influence me. I appreciate that You appeal to my intellect as well as my emotions. You tell me to work out my own salvation and try the spirits to see if they are from You. Give me discernment in spiritual and everyday matters.

PURPOSE

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

ROMANS 8:28

Yesterday, Father, I watched a child put together a puzzle. At first, the pieces were all mixed together. One by one, the child fitted the pieces together to form the complete picture.

Lord, before I gave my heart to You and began to seek Your will, my life was a confused collection of parts. But as I develop a personal relationship with You, I begin to see a clearer image of what You have in store for me. Although my future is not yet fully revealed, I will gladly put the disarrayed components of my life into Your hands to complete the picture.

THE END

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

JOHN 3:16

Father, I avoid reading movie or book reviews that go into too much detail about the plot. I enjoy the suspense of waiting to learn how the story unfolds. The ending may be happy or it may have a twist, but I want to be surprised by it.

However, in my own life I want to know the final result. Thank You, Lord, for telling me the outcome. You have promised that if I seek You, I will find You. Jesus has already paid the penalty for my sins. A faithful life assures me that I will have an eternal home with You.

THE PICTURE JESUS SEES

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.

EPHESIANS 1:4

Dear Lord, with an auto-everything digital camera, even I can take pictures. But I have found that snapping the shutter does not guarantee a good photo. I've learned to aim the camera to cut out distracting elements such as road signs, to avoid trees growing out of heads, and to keep power lines from cutting across a scenic view. Sometimes I have to use a flash to illuminate a dark subject.

Jesus, in Your honored position of viewing earth from heaven, what image of my life do You see? Remove all distracting elements from my Christian character. Illuminate me with Your love, and frame me in Your Word. I pray You will compose my life so it presents a pleasing picture to others—and to You.

ENTER WITH THANKSGIVING

*And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM:
and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children
of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.*

EXODUS 3:14

Father, I pray that I may always enter Your presence in the proper way. I resolve to acknowledge with thanksgiving what You have done for me. You are merciful, long-suffering, and mindful of me. I praise You for the blessings that flow from You.

Lord, I come before You with humility. I bow before You, the Creator who called everything into existence. I bow in awe of You as I realize You are the I AM, the eternal presence that has spanned the ages. I humbly cry to You as my provider and deliverer.

AN EFFECTIVE TEACHER

*For I have given you an example,
that ye should do as I have done to you.*

JOHN 13:15

“Model the ideal behavior,” a supervisor told me when I was taking a class to train others. “Show examples of the skill you want to transfer to the other employees, and give them guided practice.”

Heavenly Father, I appreciate reading about the life of Your Son and seeing how He taught the world about Your love through His example and teachings. He portrayed compassion by healing the sick and feeding the multitudes. He expressed the depth of Your forgiveness by giving His life for my sins. Lord, help me communicate Your teachings by my example.

HAPPY IN THE LORD

*Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea,
happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.*

PSALM 144:15

Lord, as I look up to heaven, I am overwhelmed with a spirit of happiness. I delight in knowing You as the Creator of this universe, who designed me to reflect Your character.

Lord, I consider it a benefit to be in Your lineage. I delight in having You as my heavenly Father. You give me strength to find victory in difficult situations. In easy times or in difficult ones, I know that I benefit from my walk with You. Regardless of the circumstances, may my disposition be one that recognizes the everlasting happiness I have in knowing You.

ON AUTOPILOT

Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17

Lord, I was driving when I realized with a start that I'd passed my turn. I'd taken the same route to work so often that on the weekend, when my destination was in the same direction, I'd continued on as if going to work. I was on autopilot, not thinking of my purpose or where I was going.

Father, in my spiritual life, I sometimes go on autopilot. I unconsciously let religious ceremonies and thoughtless worship substitute for honest and meaningful living. Serving You can cause weariness for me and those around me when it becomes a ritual. Help me develop enthusiasm and delight for a conscious Christian walk.