

66

POCKET  
PRAYERS

S H TOW





POCKET  
PRAYERS

*...keeping you near to the heart of God.*

S H T O W

# CONTENTS

Why Pray	1
How to Pray - I	2
How to Pray - II	3
How to Pray - III	4
How not to Pray - I	5
How not to Pray - II	6
How not to Pray - III	7
Pray only to God for Forgiveness	8
How many times a day should I pray?	9
What about Posture?	10
How to Address God - I	11
How to Address God- II	12
How to Address God - III	13
The Lord's Prayer	14
Pray with the Spirit	15
The Only Mediator	16
A Sinner's Cry	17
Confession	18
Confession	19
Search me, O God	20
A New Christian's Prayer	21
God of my Salvation	22
Assurance of Salvation	23
Thanks for Salvation	24
Thanks for Salvation	25
Thanksgiving	26

Love for God's Word	27
Bible before Breakfast	28
Morning Prayer	29
Morning Dedication	30
Strength for Today	31
Evening Thanks	32
Evening Renewal	33
Bedtime	34
For More Faith	35
Holy Spirit our Teacher	36
For Spirit Filling	37
Longing for God's House	38
Saturday Evening	39
Lord's Day	40
Man's Chief End	41
Longing for God	42
Serving God with Zeal	43
Seeking the Lost	44
For Missions	45
Make me Willing	46
Year's End	47
New Year	48
Seeking God's Will	49
Living for Jesus	50
Backslider's Prayer	51
One for the Road	52
National Servicemen's Prayer	53

Birthday Joy	54
Going Steady	55
Wedding Day	56
Setting up Home	57
Baby's Arrival	58
Parent's Prayer for Children	59
Children's Prayer for Parents	60
Be Strong in the Lord	61
God my Refuge	62
When Angry	63
For Anxious Times	64
Recovery from Sickness	65
Before Examinations	66
In Time of Success	67
In Time of Disappointment	68
In Deep Depression	69
A Cry for Help	70
Longing for Heaven	71
Terminal Illness	72
Death of a Believer	73
Ready for His Coming	74
Our Blessed Hope	75
For Church Leaders	76
For the Church Family	77
Beware False Prophets	78
Contending for the Faith	79
Make Me an Intercessor	80

# WHY PRAY?

The natural man cares not to pray.  
He prefers rather to lie in bed;  
Or sit captive before the TV.  
To him prayer is foolishness.

Prayer is a mystery. It is God's method.  
Our Father in Heaven longs to commune with us.  
He loves our company; daily He awaits our call.  
Like wayward children, we neglect and ignore Him.

There's power in prayer - God's power.  
Much prayer much power!  
No prayer no power!  
The secret of power is prayer.  
The secret of prayer is to pray in secret.

**Jesus says:**

**Men ought always to pray and not to faint.**

# HOW TO PRAY - I

*“Lord, teach us to pray.”*

When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Matthew 6:6-8

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it.

John 14:13,14

# HOW TO PRAY - II

Our Lord said it!

1. PRAY in secret (...no show off!)
2. PRAY to our FATHER IN HEAVEN only
  - *not* to any person, dead or alive
  - *not* to Mary or any ‘saint’.
  - (They are dead and buried)
3. PRAY without vain repetitions, like heathens who use rosaries and other pagan ‘aids’.
4. PRAY “IN MY NAME”, meaning, in the name of JESUS ONLY.
5. SAY ‘Amen’ at the end, meaning, “With my true and hearty affirmation.”

Let’s do it!

## HOW TO PRAY - III

1. How often should we pray?  
Pray *often*...evening, and morning, and at noon,  
will I pray (Psalm 55:17).  
In *every thing* by prayer and supplication  
(Philippians 4:6).  
Pray *without ceasing* (1Thessalonians 5:17).
2. How loud should we pray?  
As for me I will call upon God... and cry *aloud*  
(Psalm 55:16,17).  
Hannah prayed in her heart... but her *voice was  
not heard* (1Sam1:13) But God answered!
3. How long should we pray?  
The thief on the cross: “Lord, remember me  
when thou comest into thy Kingdom”  
(Luke 23:42).  
The publican in the temple: “God be merciful to  
me a sinner” (Luke 18:13). Both were justified!

Effective praying need not be loud or long.

# HOW NOT TO PRAY - I

1. We must not harbour unconfessed sin.  
“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me” (Psalm 66:18).
2. We must not nurture an unforgiving spirit.  
“But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” (Matthew 6:15).
3. We must not use vain repetitions.  
The common form of “vain repetition” is the *rosary* prayer. The rosary is not a Biblical method. Our Lord forbade its use. He said: “When ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking” (Matthew 6:7).
4. Rosary prayers are vain repetitions.  
God is not interested in vain repetitions. The rosary is a pagan invention. It is *not* in the Bible. It is made by men and enforced by men. Christians should obey Christ and not men.

# HOW NOT TO PRAY - II

## CHRISTIANS MUST NOT PRAY FOR THE DEAD

1. Nowhere in the Bible are we commanded to pray for the dead.
2. Prayers for the dead are pagan and futile. At death man's "fate is sealed" and only God's judgment awaits. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).
3. Read our Lord's teaching in Luke 16:19-31. Two men died. One was carried by angels into heaven. The other was cast into hell and everlasting torment. Both states are unalterable and eternal.
4. Nothing that the living does can in any way alter the state of the departed dead. No amount of prayers, or masses, or sacrifices, or offerings, or gifts to the church, can do anything - good or bad - to the souls of the *dead*.
5. Pray, if you will, for the *living*, and win them for Christ today!

# HOW NOT TO PRAY - III

## CHRISTIANS MUST NOT PRAY TO THE DEAD

1. Praying to the dead is *not* for Christians.  
It is forbidden in the Bible for anyone to call on the dead or to commune with the dead.  
To do so is an abomination which God will not leave unpunished.
2. Praying to the dead is seen in pagan ancestor worship after the Chinese tradition. It is also seen in certain churches where prayers are offered to dead persons such as Mary and certain “saints” (both are dead and buried).
3. (Incidentally my Buddhist taxi driver complained that his neighbour paid \$750 for a priest to pray 3hours for his departed father’s soul. Another departed friend’s five children paid \$5,000 for the priest to say mass for his soul ‘in purgatory’).
4. *The dead cannot hear,let alone answer.*

# PRAY ONLY TO GOD FOR FORGIVENESS

1. The scribes in our lord's day were quite right when they said: "Who can forgive sins but God only?" (Mark 2:7)
2. Our Lord answered: "But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins" ...then Jesus spoke a word and the sick of the palsy was instantly healed, his sins also forgiven.
3. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). The question is: to whom must we confess our sins?
4. God's word has clear instruction. When we sin it is against God; therefore to Him confession must be made and not to any man, or woman; not to the priest or pastor or Mary (who lies dead in the ground).
5. "And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). He alone is our mediator or go-between in our approach to God (1 Timothy 2:5).

*Come, then, to God the Father through Jesus Christ the Son.*

# HOW MANY TIMES A DAY SHOULD I PRAY?

1. The number of times must not be according to the rule of law but rather according to the rule of love. It is not “How many times am I required?” but “O how I love to speak with the Lord!”
2. If I love God and realize that my times are in His hand, and all my goodness comes from Him, then my heart should be overflowing with filial love at all times of the day.
3. Thanksgiving and adoration, petition and supplication, then, must come readily and joyously on waking, before every meal, at bedtime, and on every significant occasion e.g. travel, examination, sickness, birthday, anniversary, success, failure, disappointment, etc.
4. Our Lord Jesus has set us the example. Read about His life of prayer in the Gospels and imitate Him! Read the Psalms of David and learn valuable lessons in how we ought to pray “in spirit and in truth.”

# WHAT ABOUT POSTURE?

Is posture in prayer important? Absolutely!

1. While prayer may be offered from the heart under any and all circumstances, nevertheless body posture and attitude must reflect the heart condition and inner reverence appropriate to the occasion and circumstance.
2. Thus a person may pray while working, walking, running, swimming, driving, flying, fighting (in battle), etc. In church and at home, one may pray seated, standing or kneeling.
3. As a mark of reverence the head should be bowed; the eyes are closed to shut out external distractions and promote better concentration. Prayer, being part of worship, should engage our whole being: heart, soul, mind, and strength.

# HOW TO ADDRESS GOD - I

1. Our God is thrice holy. The seraphims (angels) by the throne of God say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory” (Isaiah 6:3).
2. The third commandment says: “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain” (Exodus 20:7).
3. Our God is not only a holy God but He is a jealous God. He will not allow His name to be taken in vain, meaning, He will not tolerate His name to be misused or tampered with or usurped by any man.
4. God’s word reveals to us the names of God. In praying we must address Him by those names. To do otherwise is insulting and offensive.

## HOW TO ADDRESS GOD - II

1. God's names must be used with greatest reverence and respect.

2. Old Testament names:

God (El, Elohim)

God Almighty (El Shaddai)

God Most High (El Elyon)

LORD (Adonai, Jehovah)

3. New Testament names:

Father ("Our Father which art in heaven")

Holy Father (John 17:11)

4. These names must *not be taken in vain* or used by any man, whether pastor, priest or pope. Our lord forewarned against such abuse: "Call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven" (Matthew 23:9).
5. It is blasphemous (impious) for an officer of the church to be called "Father" or "Most Holy Father" for these are the *names* of God.

# HOW TO ADDRESS GOD - III

1. When addressing God in prayer we may use one or more of the following names: God, God Almighty, God Most High, lord, Father, Holy Father, Father in Heaven.
2. We may also affix one or more of the *attributes* of God: eternal, just, loving, merciful, unchanging, gracious, holy, sovereign, etc.
3. Should we use “You” or “Thou”? There is no hard and fast rule. The King James Version uses “Thou”, “Thee”, “Thine”. Modern translations (eg. New International Version or New American Standard Bible) use “You” and “Your”.
4. The important thing is not the word “You” or “Thou” but the heart condition of the one who uses those words.
5. Attempts to give a feminine gender to the name of God (“Mother God”) or a neuter gender (“O Divine Person”) are extrabiblical and abominable.

# THE “LORD’S PRAYER”

“Lord, teach us to pray.”

Our Father which art in Heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth,  
as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power,  
and the glory,  
forever and ever.

Amen.

# PRAYING WITH THE SPIRIT

*“I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also.”* 1 Corinthians 14:15

Most Holy Father,

Teach me to pray as our Lord Jesus also taught His disciples to pray, for except we pray aright our prayers will not be heard. O Holy Spirit Comforter, You are the perfect teacher. Spirit of Truth, guide me into Your truth. O Spirit of Prayer and Supplication, implant in my heart a love for prayer, and a quiet spirit to commune with You.

Save me, O Lord, from the falsehood of tongues and ecstatic utterances. Enable me to pray in spirit and in truth; to pray with the spirit and with the understanding. May I rest fully in Your promise that when I call You will answer. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. Hear this my prayer, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# THE ONLY MEDIATOR

*“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”*      1 Timothy 2:5

Everlasting Father in Heaven,

look down upon me a fallen sinner, miserable and without strength of soul and mind. I have no hope but in Thee. I am saved only by Thy goodness undeserved; not by mercy alone but by abundant mercy; not simply by grace but by the exceeding riches of Thy grace. Thou hast devised my salvation through Thy Son. Thou hast this one and only way, the perfect way.

I rejoice that my Saviour accomplished the great transaction at Calvary; that for me He endured the cross and despised the shame. I thank Thee that Jesus paid the price of my sin; by one perfect sacrifice of Himself, He satisfied Thy justice once for all. Lord, help me to see Him, Jesus the author and finisher of my salvation, my only Mediator. In His name I pray. Amen.

# A SINNER'S CRY

*“Woe is me! for I am undone . . .”*

Isaiah 6:5

O Holy and Righteous God.

Before Thee I stand sinful, condemned. Save me, O God! Save me from myself, from all my sins, from my perverse nature, from a life of continual rebellion against Thee. All my thoughts, affections, desires and ambitions are enmity against Thee. I have hated Thy way of truth and wandered far from Thy ways.

O merciful God and heavenly Father, I turn in repentance to Thee; and in faith to the Saviour. I see Jesus bleeding for me, dying in my place. I hear Him pleading, “look unto me and be saved! For why will you die?” Gracious God, cast me not utterly away. In wrath remember mercy. O Holy Spirit, apply the blood of the Lamb to my heart; cleanse me and I shall be whiter than snow. Accept me as Thy child, O God of my salvation, through Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.

# CONFESSION

*“God be merciful to me a sinner.”*

Luke 18:13

Gracious Father in Heaven,

Unto You do I cry, O Lord. Be not silent unto me, lest if You be silent, I become like them that go down to eternal damnation. Hear the voice of my supplication when I cry unto You. Send me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity to everlasting destruction.

Unto You only do I look. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor the transgressions of my years. I acknowledge my sins before You, and mine iniquities have I not hid. I cast myself upon Your mercy, O God. Cleanse and forgive me all my sins. Wash me in the soul-cleansing blood of Your Son. Be gracious unto me and hear my prayer, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# CONFESSION

*“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.”* Psalm 51:7

Most righteous God,

Have mercy upon me according to Your lovingkindness. According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. Against You only have I sinned, and done evil in Your sight. For I was shapen in iniquity. In sin did my mother conceive me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation. For You desire not sacrifice; else would I give it. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. Hear this my humble cry, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# SEARCH ME, O GOD

*“How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God!”*

Psalm 139:17

Everlasting Father,

You have searched me and known me. You know my downsitting and my uprising. You know all my ways, for there is not a thought or a word, but lord, You know it all. You surround me and have laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me.

Father in Heaven, my Maker and Redeemer, I am Your handiwork. By Your unsearchable wisdom You made me. How precious are Your thoughts unto me, O God! But I am sinful and unclean before You. I need to be cleansed and restored. You only can do it.

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# A NEW CHRISTIAN'S PRAYER

*“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”* Romans 8:14

Most gracious Father in Heaven,

Blessed be the name of the Lord for saving a wretched sinner like me. I was once an enemy, far from God, but in love You did reach down to me by Your own Spirit. Thank You, O Holy Spirit, for seeking me and leading me to the Saviour; for teaching my rebellious heart to believe in Him; for opening my eyes to behold my dying Lord; and for adopting me as a child of God. I thank You for salvation so amazing and free.

O indwelling Spirit, Holy Comforter, strengthen me in my Christian life, for I am but a newborn babe. Teach me daily how I ought to live in union with my Saviour and in constant fellowship with Him. Enable me to live, not for self or for sin, but for Christ who loved me and gave Himself for me. lead me daily in secret devotion that I may grow in grace and in the knowledge of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen.

# GOD OF MY SALVATION

*“Salvation is of the Lord.”*

Jonah 1:9

Heavenly Father, eternal Son, blessed Spirit,

I worship and adore Thee, O eternal Being, one God in three Persons, for calling this poor sinner into Thy Kingdom. O Holy Father, Thou hast sent Jesus to redeem me; O Jesus, Thou hast washed me in Thine own blood and cleansed me from my sins. O Holy Spirit, Thou has indwelt my heart, implanted there eternal life, and taught me Thy truth. Blessed Holy Trinity, I praise and thank Thee for love so wondrous, mighty and free.

O Father, I thank Thee for Thy unspeakable gift, Jesus Christ, full of grace and truth. O Jesus, I thank Thee that in fullness of grace Thou hast accepted and loved me. O Holy Spirit, I thank Thee for uniting me with Christ for ever. O Holy Triune God, let me live in Thee and for Thee, in filial love and devotion, this day and always in the sure expectation of soon living with Thee for ever, through Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.

# ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

*“I give unto them eternal life;  
and they shall never perish.”*

John 10:28

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

You have loved me with an everlasting love. For while I was yet a sinner dead in trespasses and sins, Christ my Saviour died for me. He paid the awful price of blood that I might receive His life; and He clothed me with His eternal righteousness. Father in Heaven, I thank You that You chose me before the foundation of the world, and adopted me as Your child according to Your own will. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me!

I thank You, O God, for my Saviour who saves me to the uttermost, from out of the deepest hell into an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for me. I thank You that I am kept by Your almighty power unto salvation and everlasting life, and no power or force on earth is able to pluck me out of Your hand. May I rest in this blessed assurance and follow You stedfastly to the end. I pray this through Christ my Lord. Amen.

# THANKS FOR SALVATION

*“Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.”*

2 Corinthians 9:15

Creator and Redeemer God,

Author of life and source of all blessedness, I adore Thee for revealing Thyself to me through the Gospel. Great is Thy compassion toward me, and great Thy patience, love and grace. I praise Thee for giving me the Saviour. I know in Him my sins are forgiven, my guilt removed, my poverty made rich. Count me among those who love Thee, who have heard Thy voice and do follow Thee. O Lord my God, I rejoice to walk with Thee and to take Thee at Thy word.

Help me to appreciate the preciousness of Holy Spirit indwelling, and His spiritual graces and blessings of each day. Help me to work out my own salvation with meekness and fear: to walk in newness of life; to deny self, sin and the world; to set my affections on things above; to shun every evil way and to follow after righteousness. O God my Saviour, make me worthy of so great a salvation. May Jesus be glorified in me! In His blessed name I pray. Amen.

# THANKS FOR SALVATION

*“In every thing give thanks.”*      I Thessalonians 5:18

O Lord my God,

You are the Author of everlasting life the Giver of all spiritual grace. You are the only One worthy of my love, devotion, admiration and adoration. Your lovingkindness and tender mercy surround me every day. No words from my heart can ever express the gratitude I owe. Not even this life lived for You a thousand times over can adequately repay my everlasting debt. “O to grace how great a debtor, daily I’m constrained to be.”

I thank You, O Lord, for saving my soul from destruction. I thank You for preserving my strength and vigour; for the joys and delights of life; for hands and feet, for eyes and ears to do Your bidding. I thank You for Your daily provision of my needs; for health and appetite; for home and friends; for opportunities of work and service. Above all, I thank You for the Home prepared in Heaven for me and those who love You. For all these I thank You, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# THANKSGIVING

*“Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving...”*

Psalm 95:2

Almighty Father in Heaven,

It is a good thing to give thanks unto You, O Lord, and to sing praises unto Your name, O most High: to show forth Your lovingkindness in the morning and your faithfulness every night. For You have made me glad through Your work. I will triumph in the works of Your hands. O Lord, how great are Your works, and Your thoughts very deep. You are most High for evermore.

What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto You my God in the presence of all Your people. I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon Your holy name. Blessed is the man that fears the Lord, and puts his trust in You, O most High. Accept this my prayer of thanks through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# LOVE FOR GOD'S WORD

*“O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day”*

Psalm 119:97

Almighty and eternal God,

In the midst of many distracting and deceptive voices, keep my ears attuned to Thy loving voice. Speak Lord, out of Thy Word; Thy servant heareth. Open Thou mine ears that I may receive Thy Word with joy. Open Thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law. Except Thou Lord show me, I cannot know Thy way. Thy word alone is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Teach me Thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path. Deal bountifully with Thy servant, that I may live, and keep Thy word. I am a stranger in the earth: hide not Thy commandments from me. Implant in my heart a fervent love for Thy Word, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# BIBLE BEFORE BREAKFAST

*“O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day”*

Psalm 119:97

Most gracious God,

Thank you for Your Word of life, the Bible. Teach me to appreciate that within its sacred pages is wisdom surpassing the ancients', wealth more precious than silver and gold, light for life's pathway, and food for spiritual growth. Lord, open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Your law. I am but a child, and a stranger on this earth. Hide not Your commandments from me.

Teach me Your holy statutes, O Lord. With my lips have I declared all the judgments of Your mouth. I have rejoiced in Your testimonies as in all riches. Help me to meditate in Your precepts and have respect unto Your law. I will delight myself in Your statutes, more than in necessary food. Grant me a holy appetite for Your Word. Lead me in Your pathway of health and life. Hear my sincere heartcry, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# MORNING PRAYER

*“My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee...”*

Psalm 5:3

O Sovereign Lord,

Your mercies have brought me to the dawn of another day. Vain will be its opportunities unless I grow in grace and increase in knOWledge of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. let me in my Quiet Time commune with You in spirit and in truth; let me resolve to love You, to follow You, and to serve You with heart and soul and mind and strength. Help me always to do my best for You.

O Great Shepherd, lead me in Your perfect path this day. May Your rod and Your staff keep me from going astray. Restrain my feet from wandering into hidden dangers, from falling into Satan’s secret snares. Defend me from all attacks of the evil one, from the seductive lure of the world, and from my own carnal lusts. Holy Spirit, come with almighty power and garrison my heart, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# MORNING DEDICATION

*“...present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God.”* Romans 12:1

Eternal Father,

As I cross the threshold of this day, I commit myself wholly to Thee. Be pleased to make this poor body of mine a living sacrifice to be used in ways most pleasing to Thee. O divine Potter, mould me into the image of Jesus, my Redeemer and Lord. May my life reflect His purity and goodness and grace. Fill me with His Spirit that I may not be conformed to this world; but transformed by a renewed mind, may I daily do Thy holy will.

Keep my heart and mind in Thy perfect peace, unsoiled by the evils around me. Fix my eyes on things above, eternal and unseen. Grant me a burning love for my Lord so that my heart will never grow cold. Alert me to the nearness of Thy coming, watching and waiting for Thy trumpet call. Help me to order my life accordingly, to live each day as the last, to walk each step as my final step. If my life should end today, let it be my best for Thee, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# STRENGTH FOR TODAY

*“I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the Lord sustained me.”* Psalm 3:5

Almighty God,

I need Your grace to help me meet the demands and challenges of another day. The world and its temptations are ever with me. The prince of this world seeks my downfall. He entices my evil nature to be his ally. O Lord, help me or I shall fall. Only Your power can keep me from falling. Hold me up by Your almighty hand and I shall be safe. Lead me in the plain path of righteousness for Your name's sake. Be near me every moment of this day.

Give me neither poverty nor riches, but a godly spirit and a contented heart. Feed me just enough, lest I be full and forget You, or be hungry and steal. May I use the hours of this day to do good to all men, to redeem my time, to extend Your saving grace to others, and by kind words and works to glorify Your holy name. May I do nothing which You cannot bless or approve. May I live this day with eternity's values in view, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# EVENING THANKS

*“Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.”* Luke 24:29

O lover of my soul,

My thoughts turn to You as darkness falls and the night shades deepen. Another day is ended, the hours have flown away. To You my God I look with gratitude for blessings received. I thank You for the refreshing air, for sunshine and rain, for food that sustains, for safety and peace, for opportunities of work and witness, for joys of family and friends. These good gifts have come down from You, dear Father of lights, my great unchanging Friend.

Now to You I come for cleansing from this day's defilement. Before You I acknowledge my faults and failures, my defects and defilements. O Master, be very patient and longsuffering, to cleanse and forgive my every sin and transgression. I desire to be strengthened by Your Holy Spirit in the inner man, to conquer sin and self, to overcome the body with its affections and lusts. Grant me Your peace and safe-keeping this night, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# EVENING RENEWAL

*“From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord’s name is to be praised.”* Psalm 113:3

Everlasting Father,

O my God, if Your mercy had bounds, where would I find a refuge from Your wrath? But Your love in Christ is without measure, Your compassion never failing. Thus to You I come at close of day, to confess my sins of commission and omission: sins against Thee, O Father; sins against Thee, O Redeemer; sins against Thy strivings, O Holy Spirit; sins against Thy Word; sins against my neighbours and myself. From these cleanse me, O Lord.

Enter not into judgment against me, O God, for I plead no righteousness of my own. Only the finished work of Jesus and His merit is sufficient satisfaction for my sins. I thank Thee that in Him is pardon and forgiveness. Help me, Lord, to hate evil, to flee the sins I confess, and to resist every evil thought. Make me more resolute, more watchful, more prayerful. Help me so to live that my Lord’s name, through which I pray, may be honoured and adored. Amen.

# BEDTIME

*“I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety.”* Psalm 4:8

Lord of my life,

The day has ended but Your lovingkindness is without end. I count my blessings and they cannot be reckoned up in order unto Thee: if I would declare and speak of them, indeed they are more than can be numbered. The day had its problems, but Your grace was more than sufficient. Your strength was made perfect in my weakness. Thank you for Your almighty hand which led me through the day.

The night has descended and darkness surrounds. But the darkness hideth not from You. To You the night shineth as the day: darkness and light are both alike to Thee. Abide with me, O my God, through the hours of this night. Let not the unsettled business of the day burden me. Teach me to cast all my care upon You, knowing that You care for me. Grant me a good night's rest. Surround me with Your holy angels and renew my strength for the morrow, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# FOR MORE FAITH

*“Without faith it is impossible to please God.”*

Hebrews 11:6

O God my Father,

My faith is weak and my doubtings ever so strong. Have mercy on me! Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. Too often I live at the level of nature, in the flesh and not in the Spirit. I see myself my weaknesses, my problems, and my little faith. At times I almost faint with fear. Too often I look to men and not to God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, and forgive my faithlessness.

Faith comes from You alone, the Author and Finisher of my faith. Be gracious unto me, O Lord. See me in my faithless estate, and fill me afresh with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to put all my faith in You, for it is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes. Give me holy faith that dispels fear, mighty faith that overcomes the world, heavenly faith that reaches to Your throne, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# HOLY SPIRIT OUR TEACHER

*“The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost... shall teach you all things...”* John 14:26

O God Holy Spirit,

I am foolish and ignorant in the things of God. I need Thee to teach me and guide me into all truth. Make me Thy humble disciple in the school of Christ, learning daily to hate my own corrupt carnal nature. O how I need Thee and Thy saving grace from day to day! Open my understanding of the Holy Scriptures which are able to make me wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Reveal to me the Saviour and His perfect atonement. Teach me to trust only in His finished work that I may receive the Father's approval and the blessed fellowship of the triune God. Holy Spirit of wisdom and truth, instruct me in the deep things of God. Impress on my mind the Father's love; apply to my heart the Saviour's blood; imprint on my soul the Spirit's seal. lead me on, from faith to faith, in an ever closer walk with God. Keep me steadfast in my Christian life, through Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.

# FOR SPIRIT FILLING

*“And be not drunk with wine...but be filled with the Spirit...”*  
Ephesians 5:18

O Blessed Holy Spirit,

As the sun is full of light, and Heaven full of the glory of God, so may my heart be full of Thee. Stir within me, Spirit of life and regeneration; open mine eyes to behold Jesus my Saviour and the mysteries of the heavenly Kingdom. Cast out from my heart all sin and self and the world. Come, occupy every chamber and take control within.

I mourn my cold-heartedness and complacency, my emptiness and poverty, my spiritual lethargy and prayerlessness. I repent of all these and ask Thee to cleanse me anew. Then come in mighty measure, O Spirit of Jesus; come in holy power and reign supreme; come as Comforter to strengthen and guide; come as Sanctifier to make me wholly thine; come as Teacher to instruct me in Thy truth. O fill me, fill me that my life may glorify the Father, through Jesus my Lord. Amen.

# LONGING FOR GOD'S HOUSE

*“Blessed are they that dwell in thy house.”*

Ephesians 5:18

O God of my delight,

How lovely are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!  
My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts  
of the Lord: my heart and my flesh cry out for the  
living God. Your holy throne of grace is my soul's  
exceeding delight. Here, Lord, I obtain mercy to help  
in time of need. Here I see the smile of my Father's  
face. Here I plead the worth of Jesus' name, and join  
with saints His praises to proclaim.

Help me, O Father, to love Your House with grateful  
heart; to say with the Psalmist: One thing have I  
desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may  
dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in  
his temple. For a day in Your courts is better than a  
thousand! I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house  
of my God, than to dwell in the palace of a king.  
How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord! Amen.

# SATURDAY EVENING

*“My soul thirsteth for God... when shall I come and appear before God?”* Psalm 42:2

Lord of the fleeting days,

Another week has gone by and I have been preserved in my going out and my coming in. It is by Your watchcare that threatening evils have been turned aside. Your bountiful supplies have nourished me, Your comforts have upheld me and Your grace has sustained me. It is Your hand that has led me from day to day. Nothing can equal Your goodness and mercy.

Your Holy Book instructs me that there is blessing in the keeping of Your Holy Sabbath; that on earth I have no continuing city and no rest from labour and travail. Thank You Lord, for this weekly token of our eternal Sabbath with You. Thank You Lord for this needful reminder to wean me from the world. Stir within me, O Spirit, a holy expectancy of the Lord's Day and I shall sanctify this night. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

# LORD'S DAY

*“This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.”*                      Psalm 118:24

My Creator God,

You have by wisdom made all the days, but this is Your day, the Heaven-ordained day of rest, the day of Christian worship, the seal of our eternal Sabbath with You. On this day Your redeemed people meet for worship within Your holy sanctuary. I bless You for the throne of grace where I may freely seek Your face. I thank You that I have access through the blood of Jesus, and that I can enter into the holiest and find You ready to hear.

I thank You that Your voice calls me to Your House. I acknowledge my misuse of sacred things, my irreverent worship, my ingratitude, my cold unfeeling praise. O Lord, be merciful to cleanse me from my transgressions. May this day see a deep improvement in me. Grant that I may approach Your House with holy respect to worship You in spirit and in truth. May Your name receive all the glory, praise and thanks, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# MAN'S CHIEF END

*“Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”* Ecclesiastes 12:13

Lord of my life,

You have made me for one purpose - to glorify You and to enjoy You for ever. Verily the life which has missed this divine purpose is empty and vain. Teach me then O God, this lesson of life, a lesson which I must learn and constantly relearn. For this present visible world is ever so seductive, pretending to be everything when it is nothing, nothing good for the soul.

O Father, keep me from the snare of riches, and the vain honours and pleasures of this life. Show me so clearly the things of lasting worth, the things of Your eternal Kingdom, that nothing else will satisfy me. Teach me to think and plan for eternity, for time is but vapour and bubble. Grant me grace always to pursue after true holiness and godliness. Hold before my eyes, O God, Your one true purpose for me - to live only for You. May I serve You with fervent love, through Christ my Lord. Amen.

# LONGING FOR GOD

*“My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God.”*

Psalm 42:2

Heavenly Father,

I cannot fully understand the depth and wideness of Your love for a sinner like me. Such love can never be repaid, no, not even by a tiny fraction. I thank You for implanting in me a desire and longing for You. My soul yearns for communion with You, for You are more than life to me. Whom have I in heaven but Thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire beside Thee! In Thy presence is fullness of joy and pleasures for evermore.

Lord, draw near to me as I draw near to You. Give me more of Your Spirit and more of Your likeness. Fill me with purity and true holiness! I long to be like You, as much as it is possible for a creature to be like his Creator! O to be like Thee, blessed Redeemer pure as Thou art! Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness. Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart! Grant that I may grow not merely in experience, but more in grace and in the knowledge of my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. In His name, I pray. Amen.

# SERVING GOD WITH ZEAL

*“For to me to live is Christ, to die is gain.”*

Philippians 1:21

Eternal Father, almighty God,

You have given me life more abundant in Jesus Christ my lord. Once I was without life - dead in trespasses and sin, without help and without hope. But Your grace was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. You have saved me out of death into everlasting life. Henceforth I am not my own: to You I owe this life. Only one life, 'twill soon be past; Only what's done for Thee will last!

To You, my God, I give back this life. My heart's prayer is: Take my life and let it be consecrated, lord, to Thee!

Help me, lord, to see the world for what it is: passing, perilous and perishing. Help me to forsake the world and its ambitions, and to serve You only, the LORD OF LORDS and KING OF KINGS. May I see only Jesus and serve Him with fervent zeal and burning love. For to me to live is Christ, to die is gain! Yea, lord, may I live not for self, but for Him who loved me and gave Himself for me. Amen.

# SEEKING THE LOST

*“Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”*

John 6:37

God of all grace and mercy,

Thy Kingdom come! Thy will be done on earth!  
My heart cries out, for only so few have entered  
Thy holy Kingdom and everywhere Thy will is  
disobeyed. Lord, may Thy Kingdom be set up soon  
in every place and in every home where now Satan  
reigns. I am burdened for my loved one who is yet  
a stranger to Thy saving grace. It is not Thy will  
that he should perish, but that he should come to  
repentance and everlasting life. Lord, have mercy on  
him and save him!

Lord Holy Spirit, use me as Thy instrument to speak  
to him. Prepare his heart and make it receptive to  
the words which I shall speak. Open his mind to Thy  
life-giving words. Anoint my lips, and grant me the  
utterance. Give me the right words that will touch  
his heart, show him his need, turn him to the Saviour.  
Open his eyes to see the eternal realities. The work  
is Thine, but the responsibility is mine. Make me an  
useful instrument in Thy hand, through Jesus Christ  
my Lord. Amen.

# FOR MISSIONS

*“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel...”*

Mark 16:15

Lord of the Harvest,

o that all men might love Thee and obey Thy voice! There is much work yet to be done. The harvest is plenteous but the labourers are few. The day is far spent, the night is at hand. Soon our work must end. Lord, arise! and rouse Thy people from the deadly slumber of lethargy and complacency and indifference. Open the eyes of Thy people in the church to see the urgent harvest. Then lay upon their hearts their glorious opportunity and responsibility for the perishing souls of men.

Lord, Thou hast raised this work in the mission field. It is Thy work. There is a need for more workers and funds. Lord of the Harvest, send forth those labourers whom Thou hast prepared. Thou knowest who they are. Supply also the needed funds through Thy people. Holy Spirit, move in the midst of Thy people and cause them to pray and go. If it is I, Lord, send me! Make me Thy partner and fellow labourer in this great work, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# MAKE ME WILLING

*“Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.”* Mark 16:15

Lord of the Harvest,

I long to see Your great name loved and honoured throughout the whole wide earth, and for Satan’s dominion to be brought to an end. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth! lord, may this be soon! But perishing sinners everywhere are walking in darkness. They know not the lord, neither the way of life. They need to know your saving name and to come into the Gospel light.

Arouse us Your people, O Father, that we will arise and meet the challenge of the day. Give us a vision of lost souls rushing on to a Christless eternity. Then stir within us a holy zeal and a concern for souls. Send us forth, who have this treasure in earthen vessels, to share the priceless Gospel with our neighbours and others who have never known the Saviour. Make me willing to spend and be spent for Your Kingdom’s sake, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# YEAR'S END

*“For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday...”* Psalm 90:4

O God most faithful,

The year is fast fading away, forever beyond recall.  
But Thy faithfulness never fades away: it is from everlasting to everlasting. Great is Thy faithfulness! Thou hast been good to me. Thou art good when Thou givest as when Thou takest away; when the sun shines as when it rains. Thou art good by day as by night. Thy goodness is unchanging. Thou hast loved me from before the foundation of the world, and Thou hast loved me all the days of the year.

On Thy goodness I draw strength for the year ahead. With Thee, my God, the future is secure. Through stormy days or fair weather, I know Thou wilt be with me. Grant me grace sufficient for every task, perseverance in difficulties, rejoicing in every circumstance. Thou who hast begun a good work in me will surely perform it through yet another year, until the day of Jesus Christ. In His name I pray. Amen.

# NEW YEAR

*"...now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."*

Rom 13:11

O Lord my God,

The new year beckons to travellers on this earthly sojourn: days of opportunity lie ahead! As for me, lord, I pray that every day of this year may be spent as in Your presence, in Your service, and to Your glory. Grant me a holy resolve to make every hour of every day count for eternity. Holy Spirit, direct my every thought and word and action, and prosper each work done for the advancement of Your everlasting Kingdom. May this year take me one step higher in my spiritual walk with you.

Holy Spirit, gird my loins about with truth, and keep my lamp always burning bright in Christian witness; keep my ears attuned to Your promptings, my heart filled with fervent love for You, and my soul free from the entanglements of this world. May the grace of Jesus sanctify me; may His right hand lead me. O Spirit of Jesus, grant Your comfort, wisdom and counsel to speed me on my way to the heavenly goal. Make this a blessed year, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# SEEKING GOD'S Will

*“Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God...”*

Psalm 143:10

Most Gracious God,

Lord of my life, I long to do Your will and to be part of Your plan. But I confess the waywardness and rebellion of my corrupt nature. Oftentimes I have strayed from Your will and grieved Your Holy Spirit. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Merciful Father, deliver me from self-will and cleanse me from my sin of rebellion.

Teach me to do Your will, O Spirit of Jesus. Daily lead me in the paths of righteousness and obedience. let me say with the Lord, not my will, but thine be done. Have thine own way Lord, have thine own way! Thou art the Potter, I am the clay. Mould me and make me after Thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still. Hear this my prayer through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# LIVING FOR JESUS

*“Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God...”*

Galatians 2:20

O blessed Saviour,

Thy name is excellent, above all names; Thy glory is exceeding high, filling the heavens; Thy compassions fail not, they are new every morning. I bless Thee for the Gospel promises and blessings so abundantly proffered to me. In Thee I have everything; without Thee I have nothing, I am nothing, and can do nothing. Teach me to shun the world and its vain charms.

O Master, let me henceforth live only for Thee! Make me to hate that which grieves Thy Spirit, to reprove evil wherever it is found, to be gentle and patient towards all men, and to be a true example of Gospel living. Make my life one of useful service, a credit to my Saviour's name, a blessing to others. May my life be lived in the sure expectation of Thy soon return, that I may waken the slumbering believers, stir up Thy church, and turn many to righteousness, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# BACKSLIDER'S PRAYER

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins . . .”* 1 John 1:19

Gracious God, most holy Father,

Before Thee I stand guilty, for I have sinned. For the good that I would, I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. My pride and unbelief, they accuse me. The passions of my flesh and lustings of my carnal mind have brought me low into the depths of defeat. I abhor myself in shame for my corruption and backsliding. To Thee most merciful Saviour I turn: O cast me not utterly away.

Purge me O Lord, from the pollution of sin. Break its vicious fetter and set me free. Cleanse me anew from every stain and filth. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation. Deliver me from every evil habit and the enticement of former sins. Help me to delight only in Thy holy law and keep me in Thy path of righteousness and peace from which I shall never turn back, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# ONE FOR THE ROAD

*“The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in...”* Psalm 121:8

Lord Creator of the earth,

Praise be unto Your holy name, O Most High.  
By Your wisdom and power, You have created everything. Your love extends unto the ends of the earth. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, Your name is to be praised. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth: Your power is unsearchable. Blessed is the man who puts his trust in You!

To You, O God, there is no difference: land, sea, air or space - You made them all. Your power to save extends everywhere. Your children may move in safety within the embrace of Your everlasting arms. I look to You as I take to the road. The journey is long, the way ahead unknown. But You know every step; Your eye is over all. Into Your hands I commit myself. May Your Spirit guide me each step of the way. Grant me safety and prosperity according to Your perfect will, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S PRAYER

*"...whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."*

1 Corinthians 10:31

Eternal and Almighty Father,

I look to Thee in my moment of need, acknowledging Thee my Saviour and my Lord. The present assignment is fraught with unseen dangers and snares. Help me to accept it as part of Thy plan for me. Protect me from all harm and danger, and grant me fulness of health and strength for the tasks of each day. Be Thou my keeper, and the shade on my right hand; preserve me from all evil. Enable me to discharge my duty with honour and be a credit to God and country.

Lord, help me to be consistent in my daily walk with Thee. Grant me discipline in my Quiet Time devotions, morning and night, as my sacred communion with Thee. May I never be ashamed of Thee, my Saviour and my God. Help me always to put on the whole armour of God that I may be able to withstand the wiles of the devil. Grant me courage to resist every provocation and temptation. Make me a good witness for my Lord so that Jesus Christ may be magnified in my life. This I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

# BIRTHDAY JOY

*“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.”* Psalm 90:12

Gracious God, Author of everlasting life,

True happiness comes from Thee alone. Help me never to expect any happiness from the world. Today, by Thy grace I celebrate another birthday. The year gone by was filled with tokens of Thy goodness and fatherly compassions. Thou hast filled my mouth with good things and loaded me with countless benefits. If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered. I have seen Thy lovingkindness every morning and Thy tender mercies every night.

As I step into another year of life, help me not to think that I shall be more happy living unto myself. But let me give myself to Thee, to be usefully employed for Thee. Teach me that the only life that satisfies is the life that satisfies Thee. O indwelling Spirit of Jesus, remind me constantly of the shortness of life, so that I may burn out this life for Thee. May this year be a year of significant and fruitful service. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

# GOING STEADY

*“...to be carnally minded is death...”*      Romans 8:6

Most holy Father,

In Your amazing love and mercy, You have saved us from our lost estate. You have purchased us at great price, even the precious life blood of Your own Son, calling us out of pagan darkness into Your marvellous light. We can never repay Your great love, but here we present our bodies to You, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable for Your use. Help us to walk each day in newness of life, setting our affection on things above, and not on things on the earth.

We thank You, Father, for the friendship we enjoy in the Lord Jesus Christ. We commit our future into Your hand. Show us in a clear and unmistakable way if it is Your will for us to be in a lifelong partnership. We desire only to be fully conformed to Your holy and perfect will. So teach us Your way, O Lord, that we may not be conformed to the world, but by the power of Your Spirit we shall walk in the paths of righteousness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# WEDDING DAY

*“What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder...”* Matthew 19:6

Almighty God our Creator and Redeemer,

We seek Your blessing on this day of days as we enter the threshold of a new venture of life. We acknowledge You as Lord of our life and Head of our House. Therefore we come humbly, as frail creatures of dust, to seek Your help and guidance in our life partnership. Lord, except You build the house, we labour in vain that build it. So come and take full control that we may not build in vain.

We need Your wisdom for we are but children. Teach us new lessons each day, how we should conduct our affairs and order our lives according to Your holy will. Teach us the lessons of love and forbearance, of consideration and patience, of forgiveness and loving kindness. Teach us to build our house on the Rock, our Lord Jesus Christ, that it may stand secure and never fall. Hear this our prayer, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# SETTING UP HOME

*“Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.”* Psalm 127:1

All-loving Father,

Thou art the joy of living, the fountain of all blessing. We bow before Thee for guidance and instruction in setting up our new home. We know that except the Lord build the house we labour in vain. We desire not any grand or luxurious thing after the fashion of the world. We desire only a godly home where the love of God, the peace of our Lord Jesus and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit may always reign supreme.

Build us this home, most gracious God, where Jesus is Lord of every room, where no worldly or sinful thing is allowed to enter. Keep the walls free from defilement. let them reflect the salvation grace of God. Build us a home securely founded on the Rock, where the Word is loved and obeyed. May all who enter find comfort, peace and joy in the Lord Jesus, in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.

# BABY'S ARRIVAL

*"...children are an heritage of the Lord..."*

Psalm 127:3

Lord of life, our Maker,

Thou art the Giver of every good and perfect gift. We thank Thee for this miraculous gift which no human thought can contrive. As the Psalmist has said, I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. How precious are thy thoughts unto me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the stars.

Thank Thee, Father, for this precious child. It is holy unto the lord and we are but Thy servants put in trust. We seek Thy instruction in bringing up the child. Teach us how we should nurture it in the things of God from the earliest days, how to train up a child in the way he should go so that when he is old he will not depart from it. May this child grow daily in favour with God and men, through our lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

# PARENTS' PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

*“For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him.”*      1 Samuel 1:27

Creator and Giver of life,

Thank You for the gift of children; while they are in our care, we acknowledge that they belong to You, even as we also belong to You. Make us therefore to appreciate our very great responsibility as parents in the upbringing of our children. Father in heaven, teach us how we should love them with a pure and holy love. Oftentimes our love is selfish and imperfect, but Yours is perfect, pure and holy. Evermore give us Your perfect love.

Grant us Your wisdom, for we are but children in understanding. In many things we err: sometimes we do too much, sometimes too little, sometimes too strict, sometimes too lax. We need wisdom, more wisdom from You, Lord! Help us to teach them diligently Your holy Word; to pray for them and to pray with them. Above all, help us to set them examples of godly piety by living the Christ-life, through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

# CHILDREN'S PRAYER FOR PARENTS

*“Honour thy father and mother... that it may be well with thee.”*  
Ephesians 6:2

Loving Father in Heaven,

Thank You for parents who brought me into the world and lovingly nourished me these many years. They have surrounded me with selfless devotion while I was yet burdensome and helpless. From their hands I have received and received, while they have never failed to give their best. I confess that many a time I have shown little appreciation or gratitude, for which I seek Your forgiveness.

Lord Almighty, teach me to honour my parents according to Your holy commandment. Give me more love and respect for them as they advance in years. Help me to reflect and remember what they have done for me and to return thanks in practical and positive ways. Keep them, O God, in Your perfect peace and health. May Your love surround them and comfort them in their advancing years, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# BE STRONG IN THE LORD

*“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”*

Ephesians 6:11

Father in Heaven,

You have called us to a battle against the enemy of our souls. The warfare rages on; the adversary presses on every side. Lord, without You by my side I would fall. Thank You for providing armour for the battle. O blessed Spirit, impress upon my mind the absolute necessity of each of the six pieces: belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit.

Heavenly Father, keep me ever vigilant, praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance of saints. Keep me valiant in fight, taking unto me the whole armour of God, that I may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Help me to put all my trust and confidence in Jesus my Saviour, and never in my own strength. I pray this through Christ my Lord. Amen.

# GOD MY REFUGE

*“...the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress...”*

Psalm 91:2

Almighty Father,

Look down from on high and see this poor child of Thy love in this earthly pilgrimage. My going out and my coming in are all known to Thee, O most holy God. Direct my footsteps in Thy perfect paths of peace and righteousness. Order my life so that nothing may hinder or discourage me in my walk with Thee. Keep me from all strife; let no evil befall me and no temptation cause me to stumble.

Hide me in the secret place of the most High. Shelter me under the shadow of the Almighty and I shall be safe from the terror that walketh by night and the arrow that flieth by day. Guard me, O Lord, that no harm befall me, neither any plague come nigh my dwelling place. Deliver me from all evil because I have loved Thy name and have trusted in Thee. Hear me, o Father, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# WHEN ANGRY

*“Be ye angry, and sin not...”*

Ephesians 4:26

Most gracious God,

Forgive me for my impatience and hasty temper which cause unhappiness to others and dishonour to Your good name. I know from Your holy Word that he that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city. To know is easy but to do is hard. Lord, I need Your special grace to rule my spirit and keep my temper under control. I confess, I need You every hour.

Teach me, O God, to be like my Saviour the Lord Jesus, ever so humble and meek and mild. He was reviled yet He opened not His mouth. He was subjected to unspeakable insult, yet He bore it without a murmur. Lord Jesus, make me to be more like You. Take away my proud and haughty spirit and give me more of Your longsuffering and meekness. Cleanse, purify, fill me anew, O Holy Spirit. This is my prayer, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# FOR ANXIOUS TIMES

*“Fear not for I am with Thee.”*

Isaiah 41:10

Father in Heaven,

lord of all mercy, hear me when I cry unto Thee.  
Hide not Thy face from me, for I am in trouble. My  
days are filled with gloom and uncertainty. My heart  
is shaken, my head confused. My voice is sore with  
my groaning all the night long. I have mingled my  
drink with tears and eaten the bread of sorrows.  
There is no hope in sight and none is at hand to help.

O lord, help of the helpless, give ear unto my  
cry. Show me where I have erred and remove my  
transgressions far from me. Forgive me of all my  
sins and restore me to Thy favour. Arise, O lord, and  
lift me out of the pit of despair, and plant my feet  
upon a rock. In Thee and Thee alone do I put all my  
trust, so let me not be ashamed. Hear this my prayer,  
through Jesus Christ my lord. Amen.

# RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS

*“And the prayer of faith shall save the sick...”*

James 5:15

Most blessed God,

When my health was in peril You heard my cry. In my distress I called unto You and You answered me. loving Father, you have loved me with an everlasting love. There is no love like Your love. In my sickness I saw my own extreme frailty and Your exceeding greatness. I saw my utter helplessness and my total dependence on You. Truly, without You I would have perished.

In my sickness also I recalled Your past mercies. You have been mindful of me and visited me. From the day of my birth You took me under Your tender care. You surrounded me with Your lovingkindness and tender mercies. You fed me and nurtured me through many eventful years. Above all, You redeemed me and gave me hope beyond the grave, even a forestate of eternal life. For all that I have received make me truly grateful, through Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.

# BEFORE EXAMINATIONS

*“God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom.”* Daniel 2:17

God of all wisdom,

Blessed be Your name for ever and ever, for wisdom and might are Yours. You give wisdom unto the simple, and knowledge to them that lack understanding. In You only have I put my trust. I come to You, Lord, in my hour of need. The demand of examinations is great, the burden almost unbearable. I am weak and unequal to the task. But You are my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore I will trust and not be afraid. You have promised: if any lack wisdom, he is to ask of God that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him. Grant me wisdom and understanding in my trial and testing. Grant me endurance and perseverance. Sustain my health and strength to bear each day's burden with joy in the Lord. I wait upon You, my unfailing help and deliverer. Hear this my prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

# IN TIME OF SUCCESS

*“The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.”* Proverbs 10:22

Most holy and gracious God,

All success comes from You. Your Word instructs me that every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and comes down from You, the Father of lights. I acknowledge Your good hand in blessing me above what I expect or think. Indeed, I do not deserve all that I have received from You, the source of all happiness, my Maker, Benefactor, Proprietor and Sustainer. May the glory, praise and honour be unto Your holy name.

O Lord, teach me the lesson of gratitude, how I ought to return thanks with my life, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God Help me to live in You and live for You, never to be satisfied with my little progress, but to press ever toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Teach me to honour You with my tithes and the firstfruits of my increase, and to do it gratefully and cheerfully, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

## IN TIME OF DISAPPOINTMENT

*“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God...”* Romans 8:28

God of all grace,

Though things have not turned out according to my desire and expectation, yet I take comfort in Thy undying love. This alone strengthens and upholds me though I be denied the blessing of success. It is Thy good hand that chastens me, and even Thy hand of mercy that afflicts me with the present setback, for by it I see my sins and imperfections.

Lord most gracious, let me submit to Thy higher hand and accept misery and sorrow as part of my spiritual refinement. Deliver me from the sin of murmuring and self-pity. O Holy Spirit Comforter, come in Thy sweetness and power and lift me from the vale of disappointment. Equip me for the tasks ahead and I shall triumph through Christ who strengtheneth me. In His holy name I pray. Amen.

# IN DEEP DEPRESSION

*“Call unto me, and I will answer thee...”*

Jeremiah 33:3

God of all mercy,

Make haste to deliver me from the waters of despair flowing over me. Fear and trembling and the terrors of death surround me and there is none to help. Only You are my help and my deliverer. Forsake me not utterly for I am Your child. Remember not the sins of my youth. For Your great mercy's sake, cause Your face to shine upon me, and restore me to the joy of Your salvation.

Salvation is of the lord! I called and You heard my cry. Receive me with Your arms of love. Hold me and set me upon the Rock that is higher than I. Teach me Your way, O lord, and lead me in the way everlasting. O satisfy me early with Your mercy that I may rejoice and be glad all my days. Make me glad according to the days wherein You have afflicted me. Let the joy of the lord sustain me and establish me in the truth, through Jesus Christ my lord. Amen.

# A CRY FOR HELP

*“Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul”*  
Psalm 69:1

Almighty Father,

Help of the helpless, give ear unto my cry, for I am in trouble. Heaviness and sore reproach have overwhelmed me. I am sunk into the depths of despair. The waters of affliction overflow me. I called but no one answered. I am weary from crying. My throat is sore, my eyes are dim. Friends and family have deserted me. life is without meaning.

God of my salvation, come now and swiftly deliver me out of my distresses. Lift me up by Your hand of mercy. I have no help but You. You only can save and succour me, for I am Your child. Uphold me by Your almighty Spirit. Cleanse me from every secret sin and wilful transgression. Be gracious unto me according to the multitude of Your tender mercies. Restore me to Your favour and grant me peace, through Christ my Lord. Amen.

# LONGING FOR HEAVEN

*“I go to prepare a place for you...”*

John 14:2

Sovereign lord of Heaven,

Your Word tells us that our lord Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us in His Father’s house. Such a promise is too wonderful, but we know it is true, for all Your promises in Christ are yea and amen. For this cause, lord, we faint not, though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For we know our light affliction worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Father in Heaven, evermore fix my eyes on my heavenly Home, to behold the glory so that things on earth will lose their attraction. O blessed Saviour, my Lord Jesus, how I long to be with You. I thank You for the assurance that to be absent from the body is to be present with the lord. Grant me the strength and perseverance to labour on for you, so that whether present or absent, I may be accepted. Hear this my prayer, through Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.

# TERMINAL ILLNESS

*“Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.”*

Revelation 14:13

Most merciful Father in Heaven,

I thank Thee that in Jesus I have hope beyond the grave, life after death. I thank Thee for Thy Word which assures me, for as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. I thank Thee my lord, that Thou hast conquered death for me and for all who believe in Thee. I thank Thee that Thou art with me in sickness and in health, and Thou wilt be with me to the end.

For which cause I faint not; though my outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. Grant grace and endurance in this time of sickness that I may bear all things patiently, knowing that this light affliction is but for a moment, and soon I shall enter into Thy glory, to be with Christ which is far better. Whether in life or in death may Jesus Christ be praised! In His blessed name I pray. Amen.

# DEATH OF A BELIEVER

*Jesus said, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise."*

Luke 23:43

O Lord of life,

We sorrow over the departing of a loved one, whom You have called Home to rest. Our hearts are heavy and stricken with pain, but we submit to Your holy and perfect will. In our sorrow we know that You have a part; for we have not a High Priest who cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities. We thank You that in Jesus although we sorrow, yet we are not as those who have no hope. So even in death we have life everlasting.

Father in Heaven, comfort those who are overcome with grief just now, with Your own words of comfort, that, to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Impress on our minds that our parting is but for a season, for in Christ we shall shortly meet again. Teach us this great truth, that death is but a door to the everlasting Home prepared for those who love the Lord. Thanks be unto God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. In His blessed name we pray. Amen.

# READY FOR HIS COMING

*“Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”* Matthew 24:44

O God and Father of our Lord Jesus,

Blessed be Your name for ever and ever. By Your almighty power You raised up Jesus from the dead. Now He is ascended into Heaven, exalted at Your right hand in glory and great power, soon to return to earth as He promised. We see many signs which tell us that His coming is near, even at the doors. O glorious prospect, to know that when he shall appear we shall be like Him, transformed!

Father almighty, keep me ever vigilant, watching for His coming with prayer, and serving You with fervent love. Turn my eyes heavenwards, so that I shall not be captivated or ensnared by the vanities of this perishing world. O Holy Spirit, keep me burning with holy zeal, striving daily to win the lost, and to extend Your glorious Kingdom by every means, till He comes. Accept my prayer through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# OUR BLESSED HOPE

*“I will come again, and receive you unto myself...”*

John 14:3

Most Holy Father,

In a world of turmoil and strife, destruction and war threaten on every hand. Truly the world offers nothing but insecurity and unrest. We have no hope but in You. Our Lord Jesus has words of comfort for us. He says, “Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give to every man according as his work shall be.” Out of the gloom and uncertainty we see a great and blessed hope, even His coming again from Heaven.

While we serve You here below, we seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Help us to set our affection on things above, not on things on the earth. Teach us to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly and righteously, daily looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. In His name we pray. Amen.

# FOR CHURCH LEADERS

*“Brethren, pray for us.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:25

Our Lord Jesus and Head of the Church,

You have called certain men and women to positions of leadership in the church. Whether it is in the Session, Sunday School, Junior Worship, the various Fellowships and other groups, all these are Your chosen servants. You have laid on them a great and grave responsibility, even the care of the souls in their charge. Lord, for them we pray; may You grant them special grace and the Spirit’s anointing that they be well equipped for the task.

Father in Heaven, help them to be faithful and diligent in service, ever mindful of the spiritual welfare of the flock. Implant in each heart a deep and earnest desire to know Your Word better, to devote time and energy to daily spiritual preparation. Grant each one a readiness to spend and be spent in the Master’s service. Keep all Your servants strong in body, soul and spirit, burning out for the Lord, before He comes. This I pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

# FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

*“Pray one for another.”*

James 5:16

Lord God Almighty,

Thou hast established Thy Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Nevertheless Thy flock is constantly exposed to robbers and wolves during the present wilderness sojourn. We look to Thee for much needed help and protection. Strengthen Thy servants, the ministers and teachers that they hold fast the faithful Word without wavering. Enable them to lead the flock in the plain paths of sanctification and separation from all that is false, and to be worthy examples of the believers.

Defend Thy people against the temptations and evils of this present age. Defend them against the lure of the world and its material attractions. O Holy Spirit, instil in each heart a deep love for Thy Word, that all the congregation may be grounded and rooted in the most holy faith. Open their spiritual eyes to see the invisible things of God, and to turn their hearts and affections heavenward, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# BEWARE FALSE PROPHETS

*“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.”*

Matthew 7:15

O Lord and Head of the Church,

Your Word repeatedly warns of false Christs and false prophets during the last days, who shall shew great signs and wonders, insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Lord, we need Your wisdom to recognize the true from the false, for many deceivers are entered into the world. Grant us spiritual discernment that we be not deceived.

Father in Heaven, defend Your children from the snares of the evil one, for we know that Satan himself comes as an angel of light, and his servants are also transformed into ministers of righteousness. Lord, keep us vigilant, always on guard against false prophets, false teachers, false pastors and false Christs. Keep us faithful, always ready to expose error without fear, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

*“...ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”* Jude 3

Lord God Almighty,

Thy Word has warned of false Christs and false prophets who will pervert the truth and preach a false gospel. By signs and wonders they shall deceive, if it were possible, the very elect. Grant me spiritual eyesight and discernment to see the true from the false, that I may not be deceived. Help me to cherish the Gospel and to defend it from all attack.

Lord, keep me faithful to Thy Word and obedient to Thy truth. Grant me a holy resolve to stand fast against every false teaching and false movement. Help me to earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints. Help me to stand against the deception of the ecumenical movement, the charismatic movement and the new evangelical movement, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

# PSALM 23

*A Psalm of David.*

The lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me  
in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff  
they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy  
shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
for ever.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

*(from Exodus 20)*

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image... Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.
4. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
5. Honour thy father and thy mother.
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
10. Thou shalt not covet.

# TB Tabernacle Books

*A literature ministry of Calvary Pandan B-P Church*

201 Pandan Gardens, #02-01

Singapore 609 337

Tel: (65) 6560 1111

Fax: (65) 6561 1861

Email: [tabernacle@calvarypandan.sg](mailto:tabernacle@calvarypandan.sg)

