

## Morning Prayer

**Compassionate Lord**, as I cross the threshold of this day, I commit myself, my soul, my body, my activities, my family and my friends to Your care. Watch over me, keep me, guide me, direct me, sanctify me and bless me. Your mercies have brought me to the dawn of another day but its gift will be in vain unless I grow in grace, increase in knowledge and ripen for spiritual harvest.

**Incline my heart to Your ways.** Mould me wholly into the image of Jesus, as a potter forms clay. May my lips be a well-tuned harp to sound Your praise. Let those around, see me living by Your Spirit, transformed by a renewed mind, clad in the entire armour of God, shining as a never-dimmed light and showing holiness in all my doings. Let no evil this day soil my thoughts, words or hands.

**Preserve my understanding** from subtilty of error, my affections from love of idols, my character from stain of vice and my profession from every form of evil. May I engage in nothing in which I cannot implore Your blessing and in which I cannot invite Your inspection. Prosper me in all lawful undertakings, or prepare me for disappointments.

**Teach me** how to use the world and not abuse it; to improve my talents and to redeem my time; to walk in wisdom toward those without and in kindness to those within; to do good to all people and especially to my fellow Christians. May I view all things in the mirror of eternity, waiting for the coming of my Lord and listening for that last trumpet call to herald the new heaven and new earth.

**Order this day**, all my communications according to Your wisdom and to the gain of mutual good. May I speak each word as if it were my last word and walk each step as if it were my final one. If my life should end today, let this be my best day.

**Rise up** within me O Christ of God and cause me to triumph and walk in victory every moment of this day. Every meeting, conversation and activity that I engage in today will be ordered by You, so help me to respond in obedience to Your directions and choose the way of righteousness when faced with many paths of judgment. Trust me with opportunities to show Your glory and I will gladly take them. Thank You for using me.

## Evening Praise

**Giver of all**, another day is ended, and I take my place beneath my great Redeemer's cross where healing streams continually descend, where balm is poured into every wound and where I wash anew in the all-cleansing blood, assured that You see in me no spots of sin. Yet a little while and I shall go to Your home and be no more seen; help me to gird up the loins of my mind, to quicken my step, to speed as if each moment were my last, that my life be joy, my death glory.

**I thank You** for the temporal blessings of this world—the refreshing air, the light of the sun, the food that renews strength, the raiment that clothes, the dwelling that shelters, the sleep that gives rest, the starry canopy of night, the summer breeze, the flowers' sweetness, the music of flowing streams, the happy endearments of family, kindred and friends. Things animate and things inanimate minister to my comfort and my cup overflows with blessings. Let me not be insensible to these daily mercies—it is Your hand that bestows blessings and Your power that averts evil. But I also bring my tribute of thanks for spiritual graces, the full warmth of faith, the cheering presence of Your Spirit, the strength of Your restraining will and Your spiking of hell's artillery. Blessed be my sovereign Lord!

## Devotion

O how desirable, how profitable to the Christian life is a spirit of holy watchfulness and godly jealousy over myself when my soul is afraid of nothing except grieving and offending You, the blessed God, my Father and Friend, whom I love and long to please, rather than be happy in myself!

Heavenly Father, it is my greatest and noblest pleasure to be acquainted with You. May my joy derive from glorifying and delighting You. I long to fill all my time for You; to place all my concerns in Your hands; to be entirely at Your disposal. Help me to live to You for ever, to make You my last and only end.

You are my God, and I will praise You! You are my God, and I will exalt You! Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever.<sup>Ps.118:28-29</sup>

## Divine Support

**You are the blessed God**, my Maker, Benefactor, Proprietor and Upholder. You have created me and You sustain me; You have saved me and You keep me; You support me and You strengthen me. In every situation You are able to meet my needs. May I live by You and live for You—never being satisfied with my Christian progress except as I resemble Christ. May conformity to Your principles, character and conduct grow hourly in my life. Let Your perfect love channel me into holy obedience and render my duty my delight. If others deem my faith folly, my meekness infirmity, my zeal madness, my hope delusion, my actions hypocrisy—may I rejoice to suffer for Your name.

Keep me walking steadfastly towards the country of Everlasting Delights, that Paradise-land which is my true inheritance. Support me by the strength of heaven that I may never turn back or desire false pleasures that will disappear into nothing. As I pursue my heavenly journey by Your grace, let me be known as a person with no aim but that of a burning desire for You, the good of others and their salvation.

**O God, may Your Spirit speak in me** that I may speak to You. Lord Jesus, great High Priest, You have opened a new and living way by which a fallen creature can approach You with acceptance. Help me to contemplate the dignity of Your Person, the perfectness of Your Sacrifice, the effectiveness of Your Intercession—O what blessedness accompanies devotion. When under all the trials that weary me, the cares that corrode me, the fears that disturb me, the infirmities that oppress me—I can come to You in my need and feel peace beyond understanding! The grace that restores is necessary to preserve, to lead, to guard, to supply and to help me. And here Your saints encourage my hope—they were once poor and are now rich; they were once bound and are now free; they were once tried and now are victorious. Every new duty calls for more grace than I now possess, but not more than is found in You—the Divine Treasury in whom all fullness dwells. To You I repair for grace upon grace until every void made by sin is replenished and I am filled with all Your fullness. May my desires be enlarged and my hopes emboldened, that I may honour You by my entire dependency and the greatness of my expectation.

You are with me and prepare me for all the smiles of prosperity, the frowns of adversity, the losses of substance, the death of friends, the days of darkness, the changes of life and the last great change of all. May I find Your grace sufficient for all my needs.

**Great God**, in public and in private, at Church and at home, may my life be steeped in prayer, filled with the spirit of grace and supplication and each prayer perfumed with the incense of atoning blood. Help me and defend me, until from praying ground I pass to the realm of unceasing praise. Urged by my need, invited by Your promises and called by Your Spirit, I enter Your presence, worshipping You with godly fear and awed by Your majesty, greatness and glory, but encouraged by Your love.

I am all poverty as well as all guilt, having nothing of my own with which to repay You—but I bring Jesus to You in the arms of faith, pleading His righteousness to offset my iniquities, rejoicing that He will weigh down the scales for me and satisfy Your justice. I bless You that great sin draws out great grace, and that although the least sin deserves infinite punishment because done against an infinite God, yet there is mercy for me—for where guilt is most terrible, there Your mercy in Christ is most free and deep. Bless me by revealing to me more of Christ's saving merits, by causing Your goodness to pass before me and by speaking peace to my contrite heart. Strengthen me to give You no rest until Christ shall reign supreme within me in every thought, word and deed, in a faith that purifies the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens me to You and ever clings to the cross.

**Lord of immortality**, before whom angels bow and archangels veil their faces, enable me to serve You with reverence and godly fear. You who are Spirit and require truth in the inward parts, help me to worship You in spirit and in truth. You who are Righteous, let me not harbour sin in my heart, or indulge a worldly temper, or seek satisfaction in things that perish. I hasten towards an hour when earthly pursuits and possessions will appear vain, when it will be indifferent whether I have been rich or poor, successful or disappointed, admired or despised. But it will be of eternal moment that I have mourned for sin, hungered and thirsted after righteousness, loved the Lord Jesus in sincerity and gloried in His cross. May these objects engross my chief solicitude!

Produce in me those principles and dispositions that make Your service perfect freedom. Expel from my mind all sinful fear and shame so that with firmness and courage I may confess my Redeemer before everyone; go forth with You, knowing Your Presence; be zealous with Your knowledge; be filled with Your wisdom; walk with Your circumspection; ask counsel of You in all things; repair to the Scriptures for Your orders; stay my mind on Your peace, knowing that nothing can befall me without Your permission, appointment and administration.

**Eternal Father**, it is amazing love, that You have sent Your Son to suffer in my stead; that You have added Your Spirit to teach, comfort and guide; that You have allowed the ministry of angels to wall me round. Permit Your unseen servants to be ever active on my behalf and to rejoice when grace expands in me, suffer them never to rest until my conflict is over and I stand victorious on Salvation's shore. If my waywardness is visited with a scourge, enable me to receive correction meekly, to bless the reproving hand, to discern the motive of rebuke, to respond promptly and do the first work. Let all Your fatherly dealings make me a partaker of Your holiness. Grant that in every fall, I may sink lower on my knees—and that when I rise it may be to loftier heights of devotion. May my every cross be sanctified; every loss be gain; every denial be spiritual advantage; every dark day be light of the Holy Spirit; every night of trial be song.

O Lord, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, help us to comfort those in trouble with the comfort we have received from You.<sup>2Cor.1:3-4</sup> Sovereign Lord, You awaken me each morning and open my understanding to Your will. Thank You for giving me Your words of wisdom, so that I know how to comfort and sustain the weary.<sup>Is.50:4</sup>

**God is Good, His Word is True and it Works in my life!**

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.<sup>1Thess.2:13</sup>

## **In Prayer**

In prayer I find my heart going after You with intensity and long with fervent thirst to live to You. Blessed be the strong gales of the Spirit that speed me on my way to the New Jerusalem.

In prayer all things here below vanish, and nothing seems important but holiness of heart and the salvation of others.

In prayer all my worldly cares, fears and anxieties disappear—they are of as little significance as a puff of wind.

In prayer my soul inwardly glories with lively thoughts at what You are doing for Your church and I long that You should get Yourself a great name from sinners returning to Zion.

In prayer I am lifted above the frowns and flatteries of life and taste heavenly joys; entering into the eternal world I can give myself to You with all my heart, to be Yours for ever.

In prayer I can place all my concerns in Your hands, to be entirely at Your disposal, having no will or interest of my own.

In prayer I can intercede for my friends, ministers, sinners, the church and Your kingdom to come, with greatest freedom and ardent hopes, as a son to his Father, as a lover to the Beloved.

**Help me to be all prayer and never to cease praying.**

My transgressions and short-comings present me with a list of accusations, but I bless You that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Subdue my corruptions and grant me grace to live above them. Rule over me in liberty and power and let not the passions of this life nor the desires of my mind bring my spirit into subjection.

I thank You that many of my prayers have been refused! Go on with Your patient work, answering '*no*' to my wrongful prayers, and fitting me to accept Your will. Purge me from every false desire, every base aspiration and everything contrary to Your rule. I thank You for Your wisdom and Your love, for all the acts of discipline to which I am subject, for sometimes putting me into the furnace to refine my gold and remove my dross.

When Your Son, Jesus, came into my soul instead of sin He became more dear to me than sin had formerly been; His kindly rule replaced sin's tyranny. When I am afraid of evils to come, comfort me by showing me that in myself I am a dying, condemned sinner—but in Christ I am a reconciled living saint; that in myself I find insufficiency and no rest—but in Christ there is satisfaction and peace; that in myself I am weak and unable to do good—but in Christ I have ability to do all things. Though now I have His graces in part, I shall shortly have them perfectly in that state where You will show Yourself fully reconciled, alone sufficient and efficient, loving me completely and with sin abolished—**O Lord, hasten that day!**

### **Refuge**

O Lord, Whose power is infinite and wisdom infallible, order things that they may neither discourage me, nor prove obstacles to the progress of Your cause. Stand between me and all strife, that no evil befall me and no sin corrupt my gifts, zeal or attainments. May I follow duty and not any foolish desire of my own. Permit me not to labour at work which You will not bless and that I may serve You without disgrace or debt. Let me dwell in Your most secret place under Your shadow, where there is safe and impenetrable protection from the arrow that flies by day, the pestilence that stalks in darkness, the strife of tongues, the malice of ill-will, the hurt of unkind talk, the snares of company, the perils of youth, the temptations of middle life, the mournings of old age and the fear of death. I am entirely dependent upon You for support, counsel, consolation. Uphold me by Your free Spirit and may I not think it enough to be preserved from falling, but may I go forward, always abounding in the work You give me to do. Strengthen me by Your Spirit in my inner self for every purpose of my Christian life. All my jewels I give to You—my name anew in Christ, my body, my soul, my talents, my character, my success, my spouse, my children, my friends, my work, my present, my future, my end. Take them—they are Yours and I am Yours, for now and for ever.

## **Resting on God**

O God, most high and most glorious, the thought of Your infinite serenity cheers me—for when I am toiling and moiling, troubled and distressed, You are for ever at perfect peace! Your designs cause You no fear or care of unfulfilment—they stand fast as the eternal hills. Your power knows no bond and Your goodness knows no stint. You bring order out of confusion, making my defeats Your victories—the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Lord, help me! Let the weeds that grow in my soul be cut at their roots. Grant me to know that I truly live only when I live to You—all else is trifling. Your Presence alone can make me holy, devout, strong and happy.

I come to You, leaving every concern and sorrow with You—every sin calling for Christ's precious blood. Revive deep spirituality in my heart as I live to You, the great Shepherd, hearing Your voice, knowing its tones and following its calls. Keep me from deception and harm by helping me to walk in the power of the Spirit and by causing me to abide in the truth. Give me an intenser faith in the eternal verities, burning into me by experience the things I know. Let me never be ashamed of the truth of the gospel—seeing Jesus as its essence and knowing in it the power of Your Spirit.

## **The Valley of Vision**

Lord, high and holy, meek and lowly, You have brought me to the valley of vision, where I live in the depths but see You in the heights; hemmed in by mountains of weakness, I behold Your glory. Let me learn by paradox that the way down is the way up; that to be low is to be high; that the broken heart is the healed heart; that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit; that the repenting soul is the victorious soul; that to have nothing is to possess all; that to bear the cross is to wear the crown; that to give is to receive; that the valley is the place of vision. Lord, in the daytime, stars can be seen from deepest wells, and the deeper the wells the brighter Your stars shine; let me find Your light in my darkness, Your life in my death, Your joy in my sorrow, Your grace in my sin, Your riches in my poverty, Your glory in my valley.

**Heavenly Father**, no one can fathom Your greatness and each generation commends Your works to another. As we speak of Your glorious splendour—we will meditate on Your wonderful works. As we tell of the power of Your awesome works—we will proclaim Your great deeds. As we celebrate Your abundant goodness—we will joyfully sing of Your righteousness.

You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. You have compassion on all You have made, and You are good to all. All Your works praise You, LORD and Your faithful people extol You. We will tell of the glory of Your kingdom and speak of Your might, so that all people may know of Your mighty acts and the glorious splendour of Your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures through all generations. You are trustworthy in all You promise and faithful in all You do. You uphold all who fall and lift up all who are bowed down. You are near to all who call on You, to all who call on You in truth.<sup>Ps.145:3-18</sup>

**Lord, make us an instrument of Your peace.** Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

**Heavenly Father** whose heart is selfless love, take pity on our divided world and grant that we may follow in the steps of Your Son in giving ourselves to the service of others, reaching out to the marginalized and the despised, that peace and justice may triumph and Your kingdom come on earth. As Your people, holy and dearly loved, help us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with each other and forgiving whatever grievances we may have against one another. Help us to forgive as You have forgiven us. And over all these virtues, help us to put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.<sup>Col.3:12-16</sup>

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

## **A Prayer of confession over our giving**

**Father, in the Name of Jesus,**

**I confess that Your Word reigns over every area of my life.**

You give me the ability to produce wealth  
and so confirm Your covenant. *Deut.8:1*

I bring my whole tithe into the storehouse  
that there may be food in my house. *Mal.3:10*

I am generous and freely give, knowing that I will prosper. *Prov.11:24-25*

I give generously, cheerfully and willingly,  
knowing that You will make me rich in every way,  
so I can be generous on every occasion. *2Cor.9:6-11*

I am a partner with You in giving and receiving,  
confident of You crediting my account and supplying all my needs  
according to Your glorious riches in Christ Jesus. *Phil.4:15-19*

Because I obey You, I am blessed when I go out and when I come in.

You send a blessing on everything I put my hand to. *Deut.28:1-8*

Your blessing brings wealth and You add no trouble to it. *Prov.10:22*

Good health, full life and true prosperity is my inheritance in Jesus  
and the reward of the righteous. *Ps.1:1-3; Prov.13:21; Jn.10:10; 3Jn.1:2*

**Father, I thank you for true prosperity in Jesus Name.**

**AMEN—I make this prayer mine**

## **Remember to Whom you belong**

I am created by God, I am His. I am redeemed by God, I am His. I am  
twice His, by original right and by purchase. **I belong to Jesus Christ.**

God defends me, I am His. God corrects me, He makes use of me, I  
am His. He loves me, He delights in me. **I belong to Jesus Christ.**

I am my Beloved's and He is mine. No-one else possesses any right or  
power over me. All that is mine is His. **I belong to Jesus Christ.**

All my sin, weakness and shortcomings, I give to Him. He has taken  
all my condemnation, misery and fear. **I belong to Jesus Christ.**

His strength is my strength, His righteousness, my righteousness. His wisdom,  
my wisdom and His holiness, my holiness. **I belong to Jesus Christ.**

He is my God. He is my Father. His family, is my family and His  
heaven, is my home. **I belong to Jesus Christ.**

## **I am a Disciple of Jesus Christ**

I identify with the blood of Jesus Christ, the Word of God and the Anointing of the Holy Spirit. I'm a part of the Fellowship of the Unashamed; I have Holy Spirit power. The die has been cast, I have stepped over the line; the love of God controls me. I won't look back, let up, slow down or back away. The decision has been made, I am a Disciple of Jesus Christ. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, colourless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, cheap giving and dwarf goals. I no longer need pre-eminence, position, promotion, plaudits or popularity. I don't have to be recognised, regarded, rewarded or considered right. I now live by faith and walk with patience. I live by prayer and labour with power. My face is set, my pace is fast and my goal is the Kingdom of God. My road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my Guide reliable, my mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded or delayed. I will not flinch in face of sacrifices, hesitate in the presence of adversaries, negotiate at the pool of popularity or meander in the maze of mediocrity. I won't give up, shut up or let up until I have stood up, prayed up and spoken up for the cause of Jesus Christ. I must go until He comes, give until I drop, teach until all know and work until He stops me.

## **I am a Disciple of Jesus Christ!**

For Your goodness and generosity in giving us all that we need:

**we will praise You O God.**

In every circumstance of life, in good times and bad:

**we will trust You, O God.**

In love and faithfulness, with all that we have and all that we are:

**we will serve You, O God.**

As we speak, write or listen to those nearby or far away:

**we will share Your love, O God.**

In our plans and work for ourselves and for others:

**we will glorify You, O God.**

In every thought and word and deed, by the power of Your Holy Spirit:

**we will live for You, O God.**

**Heavenly Father**, we pray that out of Your glorious riches You will strengthen us with power through Your Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. As we are rooted and established in love, we have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.<sup>Eph.3:16</sup>

Because we believe that Jesus is the Christ, we are born of God, and everyone who loves the father, loves his children as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving You, Father and carrying out Your commands. This is love for God: to obey Your commands. Your commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God, overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God, overcome the world.<sup>1John 5:1-5</sup>

Your Word says that anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. When we love our brother we live in the light, and there is nothing in us to make us stumble.<sup>1John 2:9-10</sup>

We clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. We will bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances we may have against each other, as You forgave us. Over all these virtues we put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.<sup>Col.3:12-14</sup>

Your divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of You. For this very reason, we make every effort to add to our faith goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. For if we possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep us from being ineffective and unproductive in our knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2Pet.1:3-8</sup>

Above all, we will love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. We will offer hospitality to one another without grumbling and use whatever gifts we have received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.<sup>1Pet.4:8-10</sup>

**Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.**<sup>Eph.3:20-21</sup>