

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a white and purple striped short-sleeved shirt under a dark brown apron, stands barefoot on a sandy beach. She is holding an open book and looking down at it. The background shows the ocean with gentle waves and a clear blue sky.

# Praying For Keeps

## 2 Week Pray Along Prayer Journal

To Get Stuck On  
Prayer For Life

Dave Davidson & Tom Allen

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## 2 Week Pray Along Prayer Journal

### To Get Stuck On Prayer For Life

By Dave Davidson & Tom Allen  
with Jeff Mullen & Dan Davidson

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“Lord, teach us to pray...” Luke 11:1  
*(Download the scripture song of this verse at [PoetTree.com](http://PoetTree.com))*

# Praying For Keeps

## Table of Contents

Page 3 - **INTRO** This Is What Prayer Is  
Page 5 - **Day 1** Take the Challenge  
Page 7 - **Day 2** Living on a Prayer  
Page 9 - **Day 3** Beyond Bedtime Prayers  
Page 11 - **Day 4** Love For God  
Page 13 - **Day 5** The Appointment  
Page 15 - **Day 6** Love For People  
Page 19 - **Day 7** Wisdom & Knowledge  
Page 21 - **Day 8** What Makes You Tick?  
Page 23 - **Day 9** Teach Us To Pray  
Page 25 - **Day 10** Power With God  
Page 27 - **Day 11** Favor With God & People  
Page 29 - **Day 12** How We Should Pray  
Page 31 - **Day 13** Jump Start Your Prayers  
Page 33 - **Day 14** Faith to Believe There Is  
Nothing Too Hard For God!

Prayer lays hold of God's plan and becomes the link between His will and its accomplishment on earth. Amazing things happen, and we are given the privilege of being the channels of the Holy Spirit's prayer.

Elizabeth Elliot PrayingForKeeps.com



**Prayer is** not some mystical process whereby we call out to some "Force." Nor is it some force with which we create things or speak them into existence, ordering God around like some kind of "Bell-hop" who art in Heaven. **Prayer is** communicating with and hearing from God.

INTRO This Is  
What Prayer Is

**True prayer is** when our will is aligned with the will of God, and we pray accordingly. **Prayer is** our connection to heaven and heaven's connection to us—that is why you should always keep the lines open! **Prayer is** not bending God's will towards ours, but our will towards His. Greg Laurie

At the mention of **prayer**, many times people are bored with pious-sounding clichés or are put under a tremendous load of guilt. For prayer to be meaningful we must look at **prayer** as a means to a relationship:

- Speaking to our Heavenly Father
- Developing a friendship with God
- Getting to know His character, His precepts
- Getting to know the way He works in the lives of men
- Spending time with Him, letting Him speak to you

Vonette Bright

**Prayer is the pulse of your walk with God.** Dave Davidson

**Prayer is exhaling the spirit of man and inhaling the Spirit of God.**

Edwin Keith

**Prayer is one of the great altars where God makes true men and women.** George Verwer

*Prayer moves the hand that moves the world.*

John Aikman Wallace

# Tell God

all that is in your heart

As one unloads one's heart, its pleasures

And its pains, to a dear friend.

Tell Him your troubles, that He may comfort you:

Tell Him your joys that He may sober them;

Tell Him your longings, that He may purify them;

Talk to Him of your temptations that He may shield you from them;

Show Him the wounds of your heart, that He may heal them.

Lay bare your indifference to good,

Your depraved tastes for evil, your instability,

Tell Him how self-love makes you unjust to others,

How vanity tempts you to be insincere,

How pride disguises you to your self and others.

If you thus pour out all of your weaknesses, needs, troubles,

There will be no lack of what to say,

You will never exhaust the subject,

It is continually being renewed,

People who have no secrets from each other

**Never want for subjects of conversation,**

They do not weigh their words,

For there is nothing to be held back;

Neither do they seek for something to say,

They talk out of the abundance of the heart,

Without consideration they say

**Just what they think.**

Blessed are they who attain such

A familiar, unreserved

relationship

With God.

Fenelon

*Praying For Keeps* is about making prayer a larger part of your life for a lifetime. It is praying intentionally for things

**DAY 1**

Take the Challenge

that matter to God. It is bringing an eternal perspective to our prayers.

Praying for keeps is about prompting prayer in the minutes of our daily lives we often waste. It is about redeeming the time and bringing glory to God. It is also about having a more fulfilled life.

No matter what your understanding on prayer is already, it is always helpful to dig deeper into this vast and mysterious subject. No matter what your current prayer habits are, it is always good to learn some ways to make prayer a better discipline, a greater joy and a deeper facet in your life.

So let's agree that a mini-prayer makeover can be beneficial for all of us. Commit to a 14-day journey to seek God out regardless of how well you know Him today. Our challenge to you is to use this book as a tool to transform your prayer walk with God. Your journey may not be followed in 14 consecutive days, but that is okay. Make a goal right this moment to finish this book and start praying more for keeps. Pray a short prayer right now to get started:

*Pray Along*

***Dear God help me seek you for 14 days in a journey of praying to you in ways new to me. Give me a greater understanding of the importance of prayer. Help make prayer a daily habit for me and reveal Yourself to me. Thanks for the privilege of prayer.***

Get into a new habit today by agreeing more when you read a prayer or hear a prayer. More on that later...

Dave Davidson

**Day 1 - Praying For Keeps Journal**

**Take the Challenge** Luke 11:1

“Lord, teach us to pray...”

*(Download the scripture song of this verse at [PoetTree.com](http://PoetTree.com))*

#1 – List why you think prayer is important.

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#2 – What more do you need to learn more about prayer?

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#3 – List any prayer related goals, requests or ideas you have now.

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## DAY 2

Living on a Prayer

When I was 12, I was lonely and didn't have many friends. It was then God impressed on my heart to pray because I believed the truth of John

16:24 "You haven't done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy."

It was also then that God burdened me to pray for three things, "Make me friendly," "Give me friends" and "Give me two to three intimate friends. God answered that prayer in all three areas and today I have more friends than I could ask for and have three intimate friends.

When I was 16, God put a burden on my heart to pray that I have never been able to get away from. That burden continued and increased at school. As I entered my first year of Seminary, I remember praying as I drove on campus for the first time, "God, please don't let me leave the same as I came here."



God blessed my studies and teaching and put me in ministry with my friend Don Morris. We still work together even 33 years later. That was a time of prayer and a forming of a pattern of prayer I have never been able to get away from. It continues to this day as I live on the prayers from my life.

The disciples once came to Jesus and asked an important request of Him as they said, “Lord, teach us to pray.” In this book I hope God helps you understand more of the power of prayer. We will seek to learn how much God wants to hear from each of us and answer our prayers. May you truly learn to release your faith. Live on a prayer and strengthen your prayer walk to keep praying for keeps.

Tom Allen

***John 14:12-14*** *The truth is, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.*

#### Day 2 - Praying For Keeps Journal

##### *Pray Along*

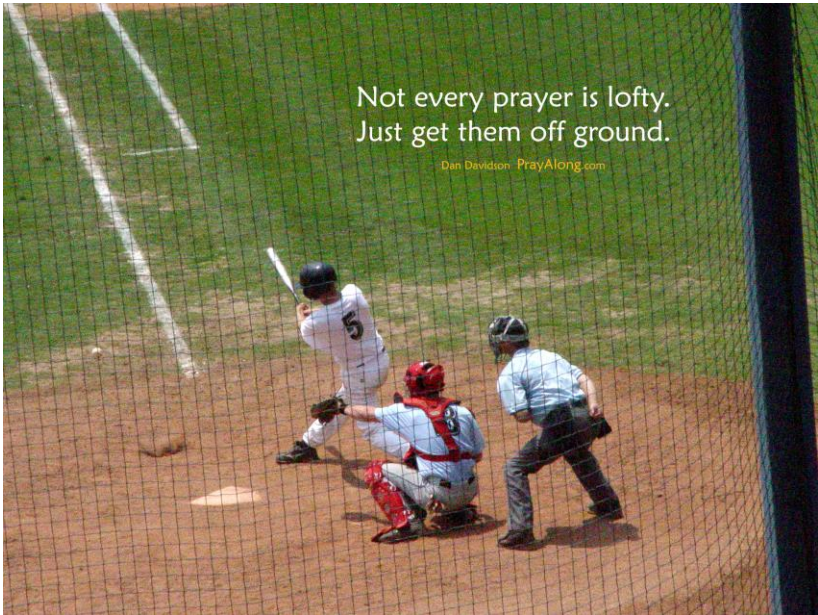
*Dear God I know I need to trust You and You, Lord answer prayers. So I ask you now to answer this prayer... What does it mean to be living on a prayer?*

*What does it mean for me? How does this cliché apply to my life? Show me how to pray in such a way that then I live by faith asking of Your will.*

*Lord, just like the Disciples, I pray –  
Lord, teach me to pray.*

# The greatest power in the world today is the power of humanity to communicate with the Almighty God!

Tom Allen



**DAY 3** Beyond  
Bedtime Prayers

Tom shares the story of the little girl who kept praying when she really should have been asleep. Explaining to her mom, she said, “I just wanted to make Satan tremble a little longer.” It says in the book of James that even demons shudder at the name of Jesus while Ephesians 5:17 speaks of “redeeming the time for the days are evil.”

Morning prayers and thanking God before meals are great habits, but why stop there. Many of our daily activities can serve as reminders to prompt brief powerful prayers.

My wife and I had a prayer reminder game when we first sat in the car. Whoever would remember first picked the person who would have to pray for the trip even if we were driving to get groceries. When I floss I usually pray for my Dad to meet Jesus. No particular reason other than I started the habit so I wouldn't waste time with only my teeth.

When I was in high school I had a cool digital watch programmed with alarms to ring at various times in the day to remind me to pray. If other people were around me, I invited them to listen in. Now that is going beyond bedtime prayers!

According to statistics, many of us will spend nearly a year of our lives in line or on hold simply waiting. What if we managed more of that time in prayer? Start praying at traffic lights for decisions in your life. Upon hearing ambulance or police sirens pray for those involved in the situation. For goodness sake, pray during commercials!

Don't allow my few reminders to let you think I am some prayer hero. I struggle to pray all the time. That is why I need the reminders. If you are like me, you know how important prayer is and want to make it a bigger part of your life. That is what *Praying For Keeps* is all about.

I love to agree in prayer with others because I can't think of everything to pray about. Visit [PrayAlong.com](http://PrayAlong.com) to agree in prayer to audio prayers online and download them on your ipod or mp3 player. Dave Davidson

***Seven times a day I praise you...*** Psalm 119:164

**Day 3 - Praying For Keeps Journal** - *Go beyond just a bedtime prayer mindset. Meditate on these prayer thoughts. Think how they apply to you.*

God shapes the world by **prayer**. The more **praying** there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil...

E.M.Bounds

**Prayer** lays hold of God's plan and becomes the link between His will and its accomplishment on earth. Amazing things happen, and we are given the privilege of being the channels of the Holy Spirit's **prayer**.

Elisabeth Elliot

The great people of the earth today are the people who **pray**, (not) those who talk about **prayer**...but I mean those who take time and **pray**.

S.D.Gordon

Work, work, from morning until late at night. In fact, I have so much to do that I shall have to spend the first three hours in **prayer**.

Martin Luther

All who have walked with God have viewed **prayer** as the main business of their lives. Richard J. Foster

It matters little what form of **prayer** we adopt...or how many words we use. What matters is the faith which lays hold on God, knowing that He knows our needs before we even ask Him. That is what gives Christian prayer its boundless confidence and its joyous certainty. We simply make petitions and requests to One who has the heart of a Father.

Of course, God's will must be the primary object of our **prayers**... and we must recognize **prayer** as an instrument of God's will. Therefore, we **pray** that God's will may be done throughout the world...and in intercessory **prayer** we bring people... from around the world...into the presence of God.

Every intercession potentially draws the one for whom it is intended into a life-changing relationship with Christ. And in intercession I move into the other man's place. I enter his life... his guilt and distress. I am afflicted by his sins and his infirmity. If... as we **pray**... we recognize our own responsibility for the world's guilt and our own guilt in the death of Christ... then we can act upon and affect the lives of men and women throughout the world." Dietrich Bonhoefer

The whole duty of humanity – the whole moral and spiritual law, can be summed up in one word – **Love!**

**DAY 4**

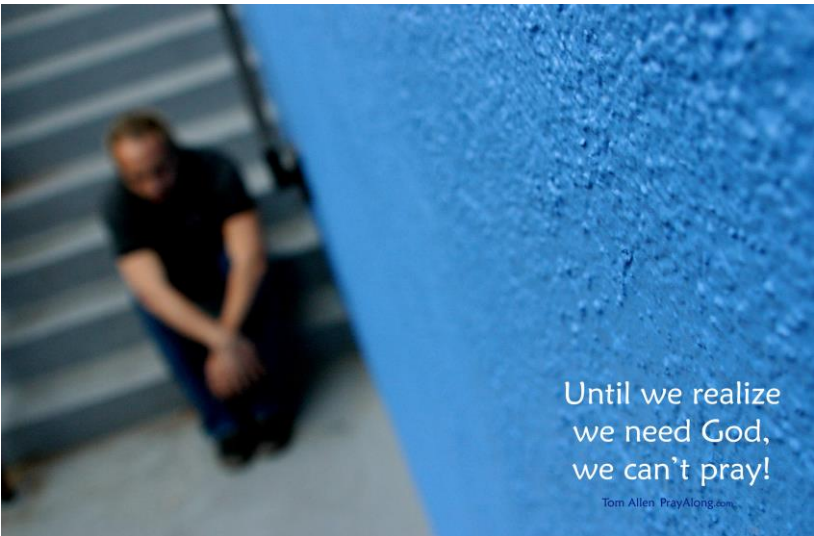
Love For God

*“Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?” Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.” Matthew 22:36-38*

This kind of love for God and people isn't natural. We naturally play favorites and like some and dislike others. We naturally want our own way and don't want to prove our love to God by obedience, **“I'll do it my way!”** God's agape love comes and we are blessed from our daily and humble dependence upon God surrendering to His plan.

Our daily prayer must be, “God, help me to love you more than anyone or anything else. Help me to love you with my whole heart, soul, mind and strength. Help me to love you with my whole being.”

**Until we realize we need God, we can't pray!** Tom Allen



**Day 4 - Praying For Keeps Journal**

**Love For God** Matthew 22:36-38

“Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?’ Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.”

#1 – List 10 characteristics or qualities of God to praise Him for.

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#2 – Select the one you especially want to praise Him for in prayer today.

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#3 – State what that characteristic of God has meant to you recently.

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#4 – Spend whatever time it takes to properly worship & thank God for His greatness, faithfulness and love.

Regardless of your political party orientation, if I told you I had arranged for a 20-minute personal interview for tomorrow with the President of the United States how would you respond? You probably would go to bed tense and not sleep well. You would probably be up early choosing the right clothes and thinking of the right questions to ask.

**DAY 5**  
The Appointment

We have a far greater privilege each day with a personal conversation with the Creator. Now that's going to the top. God says, **"I am the King of Kings, Lord of Lords and you are my friend, and I want to talk to you. Please pray to Me, and I will hear you and answer you."**

God's heart is a generous heart. He wants to give His best to those who ask from Him. *John 16:24 You haven't done this before. Ask, **using My name**, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy.*"

What do you sense you are lacking in your life right now? Psalm 37:4 says, *"Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you your heart's desires."* Psalm 84:11 says *"For the Lord God is our light and protector. He gives us grace and glory. No good things will the Lord withhold from those who do what is right."*

Here is the big result we should want in our prayer lives. **The more our love for God grows, the more our love for others will grow also.** Tom Allen

## Day 5 - Praying For Keeps Journal

#1 – What time of the day is best for you to spend with God in prayer?

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#2 – What part of prayer has intimidated or overwhelmed you in the past?

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#3 – What prayer prompters might spur you on to more prayer?

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The daily outflow of our love for God and from God to others is what love for people is all about.

**DAY 6**  
Love For People

This kind of love is really a genuine, sincere and godly compassion that comes from our heart & overflows to other's lives. It is the earthly example of God's heavenly love to others that flows from our heart of love for God.

God could have sat on His throne in heaven and said, "I love you, I love you, I love you." But if He didn't do something about it, we would still be separated from Him by our sinfulness.

The Bible tells us, in John 3:16, "*For God so loved the world that **He gave** (true love always gets involved) His only Son (Jesus Christ) that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.*" Here is the principle... **God always does something about His love.**

Too often we get so wrapped up in our troubles and blessings, we find it hard to think of others and show them compassion. So here's the hard truth. **We can't say we love God if we aren't compassionate and consistent in showing His love to others.**

<sup>9</sup>God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. <sup>10</sup>This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love has been brought to full expression through us. <sup>13</sup>And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother. **1 John 4:9-13 & 19-21**

This godly, self-sacrificing spirit of compassion comes only as an answer to prayer. Ask, and God will give us His spirit of compassionate love.

Jesus said, "*Men always ought to pray and not lose heart...*" (Luke 18: 1b). And Paul wrote that we are to "*pray without ceasing . . . for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you*" (1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18b).  
Tom Allen

## Day 6 - Praying For Keeps Journal

### Love For People Matthew 22:39-40

“A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’  
All the other commandments and all the demands  
of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

#1 – List five people for whom you are burdened to pray  
for them to become believers in Christ.

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#2 – List three things in your life keeping you from being involved  
in their lives. Ask God for passion and power to overcome  
those obstacles and eliminate those excuses.

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#3 – Name your top two prospects (as God prioritizes them in your  
heart) and list specific steps you will take this week, as God leads. Pray  
specifically for them, make contact with them and seek to help them in  
their process.

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**P.R.A.Y.E.R.** Petitioning Requests Always Yielding Eternal Response

Dave Davidson

## 31 Ways to Pray for Someone by Unknown

- Pray for a spirit of **Humility**. "The willingness to submit" (James 4:10).  
Pray for a spirit of **Reverence**. "The fear of the Lord" (Proverbs 9:10).  
Pray for a spirit of **Purity**. "A desire to be clean" (Matthew 5:8).  
Pray for a spirit of **Purpose**. "A wisdom to set goals" (Proverbs 4:25).  
Pray for a spirit of **Simplicity**. "A lifestyle uncluttered" (Romans 12:8).  
Pray for a spirit of **Commitment**. "A dedication to the 'cause' " (Jos 24:15).  
Pray for a spirit of **Diligence**. "A willingness to work hard" (II Peter 1:5).  
Pray for a spirit of **Servanthood**. "The ministry of helps" (Gal 6:9,10).  
Pray for a spirit of **Consistency**. "The quality of faithfulness" (James 1:8).  
Pray for a spirit of **Assurance**. "A depth of faith" (Hebrews 10:22).  
Pray for a spirit of **Availability**. "A willingness to go." (Isa. 6:8).  
Pray for a spirit of **Loyalty**. "A zeal for fidelity" (Ruth 1:16).  
Pray for a spirit of **Sensitivity**. "Openness of heart" (Luke 10: 30-37).  
Pray for a spirit of **Compassion**. "Love in action" (Mark 8:1,2).  
Pray for a spirit of **Tenderness**. "A willingness to weep" (II Kings 22:19).  
Pray for a spirit of **Maturity**. "The capacity to grow" (Hebrews 5: 12-14).  
Pray for a spirit of **Holiness**. "Christ-like behavior" (I Peter 1:16).  
Pray for a spirit of **Reliability**. "A depth of dependability." (I Cor 4:2).  
Pray for a spirit of **Revelation**. "Learning to listen" (Ephesians 1:15,18).  
Pray for a spirit of **Denial**. "A sacrifice to surrender" (Luke 9:23).  
Pray for a spirit of **Confidence**. "The strength of the Lord" (Phil 4:13).  
Pray for a spirit of **Integrity**. "The quality of truthfulness" (Romans 12:17).  
Pray for a spirit of **Repentance**. "A willingness to change" (Luke 3:8).  
Pray for a spirit of **Trust**. "A fearless reliance" (Psalm 125:1).  
Pray for a spirit of **Submission**. "Choosing to yield" (Ephesians 5:21).  
Pray for a spirit of **Teachability**. "A quality of meekness" (Titus 3:2).  
Pray for a spirit of **Prayer**. "A longing to wait" (Isa. 40:31).  
Pray for a spirit of **Unity**. "A respect for others" (I Corinthians 1:10).  
Pray for a spirit of **Restoration**. "A ministry of healing" (Isa. 61:1,2).  
Pray for a spirit of **Authority**. "A capacity to command" (Matt 16:19).  
Pray for a spirit of **Generosity**. "The desire to give" (Matthew 10:8).

**Prayer-** secret, fervent believing prayer  
lies at the root of all personal godliness.

William Carey

**Day 6 - Praying For Keeps Journal - continued**

When you pray **ask God** to lead and direct your prayer life. **Ask God** to let you experience His presence during your prayer time. **Ask God** to anoint your life for His purposes and for Him to direct you according to His will.

**Ask God** for His presence to move greatly in your church, when it meets and as your church touches lives. Pray for unity in the church (yours and the church worldwide). *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."* Ephesians 4:3 **Ask God** to show you where you fit into His plan to serve.

**Ask God** that He would give you opportunities to share His Gospel with others and to have the insight to recognize when He is answering this prayer. **Ask God** that unsaved loved ones and friends would come to know Him, that the scales would fall from their eyes and that they would see the truth. *"Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized,"* Acts 9:18

**Ask God** to be your strength. *"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song."* Psalm 28:7 **Ask God** to fashion your character into the likeness of Him. *"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."* Romans 8:29

**Ask God** to give you direction in the way that He would have you go. *"In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths."* Proverbs 3:6 **Ask God** that He would allow you to be a blessing to those around you. **Ask God** to break your heart over the things that break His heart. **Ask God** to teach you how to pray and intercede for those who need to come to Him all over the world. Dave Davidson

DAY 7 Wisdom  
& Knowledge

<sup>5</sup>If you need wisdom--if you want to know what God wants you to do--ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking. <sup>6</sup>But when you ask him, be sure that you really expect him to answer, for a doubtful mind is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup>People like that should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup>They can't make up their minds. They waver back and forth in everything they do. James 1:5-8

God wants us to be both knowledgeable and wise. There is a great difference between the two. **Knowledge** is familiarity with truth. **Wisdom** is the ability to put knowledge to practical effect on a daily basis.

*Philippians 1:9* I pray that your love for each other will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in your knowledge and understanding.

*Ephesians 1:15* Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for Christians everywhere.

*Colossians 1:9* So we have continued praying for you ever since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you a complete understanding of what he wants to do in your lives, and we ask him to make you wise with spiritual wisdom.

As we grow in knowledge and depth of insight and wisdom, we will be able to do what Paul prayed for the church in chapter 1 of Philippians, “So that you may approve the things that are excellent (be able to discern what is best), in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ.”

We need God-given ability to choose what is good rather than what is poor or hurtful. Often, we need to choose what is **best** rather than what is merely **good**. Life is short and there is no time to waste on second best. Tom Allen



**Day 7 - Praying For Keeps Journal**

**Wisdom and Knowledge Far Beyond my Age or Ability**

James 1:5

“If you need wisdom – if you want to know what God wants you to do – ask Him, and He will gladly tell you.”

#1 – List five current areas where you are in need of God’s wisdom.

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#2 – Select the two where you most urgently need to know God’s will and timing and state why.

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#3 – Completely state your need to God in prayer and believe He will hear and answer with wisdom and guidance far beyond your own ability.

#4 – If you really want to gain wisdom, what better method than to meditate on God’s word. Go to [PogPod.com](http://PogPod.com) and download scripture songs by PoetTree and other artists about prayer. They are FREE! Including the song “Teach Us To Pray,” our theme verse from Luke 11:1.

**DAY 8** What  
Makes You Tick?

We all respond differently to various ideas. You have to determine what works for you. What makes you tick? What helps you grow in your walk with God? For example, does listening to worship music on headphones or at a concert help put you in the mode for prayer? Have you ever prayed by repeating scripture? Are you able to agree well in prayer with others? How about leading a group in prayer?

Figure out what type of “prayer personality” you have. Maybe you like prayer meetings, but would rather not speak a lot. Maybe it’s good for you to have a disciplined and set time to pray or perhaps you like to keep praying short prayers on the go. Whatever makes you tick and helps you keep praying for keeps is what makes up your personal prayer profile. Know yourself better and leverage what you learn.

Don’t be discouraged and compare yourself to a monk or a rock star. Figure out how God has wired you for worship and fan into flame those methods of devotion that suit you the best. Assuredly you are created to interact with God - the bible says so. Use this prayer journal to experiment, inventory and develop a refined approach that’s just right for you.

I would love to just get up every morning and have the perfect quiet time with God, but if that doesn’t occur I’m not going to throw in the towel for the day. I am going to redeem the time in spare moments, *Praying For Keeps*.

Dave Davidson

## Day 8 - Praying For Keeps Journal

*Read over the contents of "What Would Jesus Pray for the World" and choose some topics you would list as your own top 100 prayer topics. Consider making other prayer lists for family and your personal life.*

10-40 Window, Abortion, Acts 13 Breakthrough, Africa, AIDS & Epidemics, Air & Sea Ministries, Answered Prayers, Arabian Peninsula, Atheists & Animalists, Bibleless People, Buddhists, Caribbean Countries, Central Asia, Children, China, The Church, Church Planting, Closed & Communist Countries, Continents, Commitment & Calling, Crime & Abuse, Cults, Disasters & Tragedies, Discipleship, Disease & Illness, Drugs & Addictions, Education & Training, Elderly, End Times, Europe, Evangelists, Faith, Hope & Love, Family & Marriage, Finances & Resources, Fruit & Forgiveness, Glory & Grace, Great Commission, Hindus, Holy Spirit, Hungry & Thirsty, India, International Students & Influential People, Internet, Jesus, Jesus Film, Laborers, Latin America, Literature, Long Term Missions, Martyrs, Media, Medical Needs, Mega Cities, Middle East, Mission Agencies, Mission Mobilization, Mission Supporters, Missionaries, Mourning & Grieving, Muslims, Nations, North Africa, Obedience, Orphans, Pastors, People Groups, Persecution & Tortured, Pioneer Ministries, Poor & Oppressed, Praise & Worship, Prayer in Church, Prayer Ministries, Prisoners & Injustice, Race Reconciliation, Refugees, Revival & Repentance, Sanctity of Life, Scripture, Prayers, Senders, Short Term Missions, Sin & Temptation, Slave Children, South East Asia, Sphere Of Influence, Spiritual Gifts, Spiritual Warfare, Strongholds, Suffering, Teenagers, Tentmakers, Thanksgiving, Third World, Have Heard, Have Not Heard, Tribal Groups, UK & USA, Vision, War, Women, Widows, World Leaders, & Youth Ministry

**Therefore, since we are receiving  
a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let  
us be thankful, and so worship God  
acceptably with reverence and awe.**

Hebrews 12:28

"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among  
the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalms 46:10



**DAY 9**  
Teach Us To Pray

*Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. **The earnest prayer of a***

***righteous person has great power and accomplishes much.***

James 5:16 (various translations)

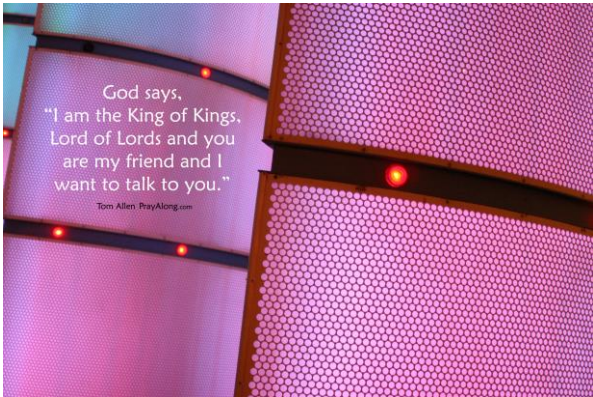
“Accomplish” in Greek (“energes”) actually means “Energy.” This word implies that there is an external force that is bringing the matter to pass. There is no power in prayer itself.

Here are two very important principles on prayer...

1) It is not our praying that changes people, circumstances or things. It is God’s power released as a result of our praying. 2) In response to our prayers, the supernatural power of God is released and directed toward the object of our concern or our petition.

This is where we can be fooled. So often we say, “Well, what difference does my prayer make?” The answer is “None!” **What makes the difference is GOD!** It is God who responds to our prayers.

The key here is God’s power. **Prayer demonstrates what God and God alone can produce!** We continue asking God – “Please, teach us to pray!” Tom Allen



## Day 9 - Praying For Keeps Journal Six Things To Pray For Daily

#1 – **Love For God** – With all our heart, soul, mind and strength  
*“Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?” Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.”* Matthew 22:36-38

#2 – **Love For People** – As we love ourselves and as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us. *“A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the other commandments and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”* Matthew 22:39-40

#3 – **Wisdom and Knowledge** (far beyond our age or ability)  
*“If you need wisdom – if you want to know what God wants you to do – ask Him, and He will gladly tell you.”* James 1:5

#4 – **Power with God, with people and over sin in my life**  
*“There was a man named Jabez who was more distinguished than any of his brothers...He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel, ‘Oh, that you would bless me and extend my lands! Please be with me in all that I do, and keep me from all trouble and pain!’”*  
I Chronicles 4:9-10 – *“...the Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth? He never grows faint or weary. No one can measure the depths of His understanding. He gives power to those who are tired and worn out; he offers strength to the weak. Even youths will become exhausted, and young men will give up. But those who wait on the Lord will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”* Isaiah 40:28-31

#5 – **Favor with God and favor with man**  
*“So Jesus grew both in height and in wisdom, and He was loved by God and by all who knew Him.”* Luke 2:52

#6 – **Faith to believe there is nothing too hard for God to do**  
*“What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see... God gave His approval to people in days of old because of their faith... So, you see, it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that there is a God and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.”* Heb 11:1-2 & 6 Tom Allen

Prayer displays power in three primary ways including power with God, with people and over sin in our life. Even for the most knowledgeable and wisest of us, life is desperately hard to manage and control. We are constantly learning how easily things go wrong. The demand made on our strength and our attention is so varied, so incessant and so subtle. We cannot hope to be of much help to others without God's power.

DAY 10  
Power With God

Three aspects of God's power are needed in our lives.

1. **Power with God.** It comes from obedience to His Truth.

*Proverbs 3:1-2 My child, never forget the things I have taught you. Store my commands in your heart, for they will give you a long and satisfying life.*

2. **Power with people.** *Proverbs 3:3-4 Never let loyalty and kindness get away from you! Wear them like a necklace; write them deep within your heart. Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will gain a good reputation.*

3. **Power over sin. God's protection from ourselves and protection from any evil person or evil thing.**

*Proverbs 3:5-8 Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths. Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the LORD and turn your back on evil. <sup>8</sup>Then you will gain renewed health and vitality.*

*1 John 2:15-16 Stop loving this evil world and all that it offers you, for when you love the world, you show that you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only the lust for physical pleasure, the lust for everything we see, and pride in our possessions. These are not from the Father. They are from this evil world.*

Interesting story in Genesis 18 Sarah was told she have a baby. <sup>12</sup>she laughed silently to herself. "How could a worn-out woman like me have a baby?" she thought. "And when my master--my husband--is also so old?" God answered <sup>14</sup>Is anything too hard for the Lord? About a year from now, just as I told you, I will return, and Sarah will have a son."

**Never doubt God's power toward you and me and always trust Him to be strong in and through our lives.** Tom Allen

## Day 10 - Praying For Keeps Journal

### Power with God, with People and Over Sin in my Life

I Chronicles 4:9-10 “There was a man named Jabez who was more distinguished than any of his brothers...

He was the one who prayed to the God of Israel,  
‘Oh, that you would bless me and extend my lands!  
Please be with me in all that I do, and  
keep me from all trouble and pain!’”

#1 – Take time to thank God for how often He has been there for you, to bless your work, to protect you from sin and guide you in your decisions.

#2 – List areas of your daily living where you are currently in need of His blessing, direction or protection.

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#3 – List areas in your life where you need God’s power in dealing with some person, thought or thing that is seeking to tempt you and lead you away from God’s best for your life.

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#4 – Pray about all the things you have listed above and believe God will answer in His powerful ways. Start a list of answered prayer.

We should pray for favor with God and favor with people. *So Jesus grew both in height and in wisdom, and he was loved by God and by all who knew him.* Luke 2:52

**DAY 11** Favor  
With God & People

**Favor with God** comes through our earnest desire to serve and obey Him through a pure life. Check out Psalm 37:1-7a

*<sup>1</sup>Don't worry about the wicked. Don't envy those who do wrong. <sup>2</sup>For like grass, they soon fade away. Like springtime flowers, they soon wither. <sup>3</sup>Trust in the LORD and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper. <sup>4</sup>Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desires. <sup>5</sup>Commit everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you. <sup>6</sup>He will make your innocence as clear as the dawn, and the justice of your cause will shine like the noonday sun. <sup>7</sup>Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act.*

**Favor with people** comes from a proper mix of love, wisdom and knowledge, and power. I know some who feel if the world hates them they are the true servants of God. That may be true sometimes, but God can certainly bless and give you favor with people. Here is my faith statement... **I believe God wants to give us favor with people more than we have ever realized if we will only pray and trust Him.** The New Testament Church had this kind of favor. Read about it in Acts chapter 2. Tom Allen

One of the most subtle burdens God ever puts on us as saints is this burden of discernment concerning other souls. He reveals things in order that we may take the burden of these souls before Him and form the mind of Christ about them. It is not that we bring God into touch with our minds, but that we rouse ourselves until God is able to convey His mind to us about the one for whom we intercede. Oswald Chambers

## Day 11 - Praying For Keeps Journal

### Favor with God and Favor with Man

Luke 2:52

“So Jesus grew both in height and in wisdom,  
and He was loved by God and by all who knew Him.”

#1 – Thank God for the many people He has brought into your life to help you when you need help, encouragement, wisdom, direction or provision.

#2 – Think of areas in your life where you need doors to open or for people to partner with you working together.

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#3 – Pray for God to go before you, in each of the areas you have listed above, and prepare the way; prepare the people and prepare the situations so you will be able to move forward and do what He wants you to do.

#4 – Pray for, at least, your top two priorities.

I can say the  
Lord's prayer  
in 10 seconds.  
Evel Knivel

**How We Should Pray** - *"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints" (Ephesians 6:18)*. Notice the use of the word "all" in this verse. We are to pray on *all* occasions, with *all* kinds of prayer and requests, and for *all* the saints.

- **God does not teach us the posture of prayer, because any posture will do.**

People in the Bible prayed standing, lifting up their hands, sitting, laying down, kneeling, lifting their eyes toward Heaven, bowing and pounding their chests.

- **God does not teach us the place to pray, because any place will do.**

DAY 12 How  
We Should Pray

Scripture tells us, *"I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere . . ." (1 Timothy 2:8)*. People in the Bible prayed during battle, in a cave, in a closet, in a garden, on a mountainside, by a river, by the sea, in the street, in Hades, in bed, in a home, in a prison, in the wilderness, and in a fish.

- **Jesus does not tell us when to pray, because any time will do.**

People in the Bible are found praying early in the morning, in the mid-morning, in the evening, three times a day, before meals, after meals, at bedtime, at midnight, and day and night. People pray when they are young, when they are old, when they are in trouble, every day and always. In any posture, at any time, in any place, and under all circumstances—prayer is good and needed in the life of the Christian. Greg Laurie

## Day 12 - Praying For Keeps Journal

Today your challenge is simple, but profound...

Pray in ways you never have before.

Try a new topic.

Try a new posture.

Try a new environment.

Come to God as a learner and seek Him.

Pray to God once again...

Lord Teach Us To Pray!





It's time to fine tune things and go over key terms and definitions that relate to prayer.

**Supplication** means to request something.

**Petition** usually refers to praying about

personal needs. **Intercession** is asking God something on someone's behalf. For example, *"Keep them from the evil one."* John 17 **Praise** and or **thanksgiving** both show appreciation. *"Oh, give thanks to the Lord."* Psalm 106:1

**Adoration** is recognizing God's attributes, praising His name, His nature and His character. **Waiting** is developing a Holy stillness in God's presence. **Watching** is having a godly alertness. **Listening** is receiving spiritual instruction.

**Confession** is admitting sin to God. **Meditation** is mentally picturing, pondering and reflecting on spiritual themes. Also you can pray **Scripture** right from your bible and **sing** with a worshipful heart.

If you haven't caught on by now even the bible says prayer is vital and very important? *"...The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man accomplishes much."* James 5:16 Prayer is also an "offensive" weapon in spiritual warfare. *Ephesians 6:18* Be confident approaching God. Hebrews 4:15-16 "Come boldly to the throne... in your time of need."

One of the best bible verses about prayer is *Matthew 7:7: "Ask and it will be given to you, Seek and your will find, Knock and the door will be opened."* The outline of this verse in an acronym for the word... **A.S.K.** – Ask, Seek & Knock.

Pray **persistently** (Daniel 10:12-13). Pray **humbly** (Luke 18:9-14). Pray **boldly** (Hebrews 4:15-16). Pray **continually** (I Thess. 5:17). Pray **believing** (James 1:5-7 & 5:16).

*"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).*

Dave Davidson

Day 13 - Praying For Keeps Journal



List your excuses for not praying as much as you'd like below.

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List any obstacles that exist in your prayer life.

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Now pray for God to eliminate the excuses, overcome the obstacles and show you a new prayer life.

Pray for faith to believe there is nothing too hard for God! There are many biblical examples...

**Noah prayed and believed** – God gave blueprints for the ark of deliverance. **Moses prayed and believed** – God delivered Israel from Egypt. **Gideon prayed and believed** – The huge enemy army fled before 300 soldiers. **Daniel prayed and believed** – God closed the Lion's mouths.

**Elijah prayed and believed** – God closed the heavens and it didn't rain for 3 1/2 years. He prayed again and God opened the heavens and both water and fire came down. **David prayed and believed** – Goliath was defeated. **Paul and Silas prayed and believed** – There was an earthquake. The Jailer was saved. Hundreds of churches were born in Asia Minor and the world was turned upside down.

Jeremiah 32:17 & 27 *"O Sovereign Lord! You have made the heavens and earth by your great power. Nothing is too hard for you! "I am the Lord, the God of all the peoples of the world. Is anything too hard for me?"*

In Matthew 21:22 Jesus promises, *If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."*

1. **God doesn't require us to have a great faith!**
2. **We simply are to have faith in our great God!**

The Holy Spirit produces faith in us. He uses the **Word of God**. The more we know of God the more we trust Him. Romans 10:17 *Yet faith comes from listening to this message of good news-- the Good News about Christ.*

The Holy Spirit also uses **Fellowship with other Christians and various experiences and circumstances**. Our faith in God grows as we observe the way He works in the lives and circumstances of other believers. This is why sharing testimonies is so important. We see God's hand at work.

This means we must be involved in other people's lives. We grow from faith to faith to faith to faith... Through the strong impressions or convictions the Spirit gives us.

Paul tells us in Philippians 2:13 *For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him.*

If you receive an impression you believe is of God, and that impression continues to grow, you should assume God is leading, if four things are true:

- The leading is scriptural.
- You know you're controlled by the Holy Spirit.
- You have no fleshly or selfish motives.
- Your one desire is to glorify God.

Two important things to remember about prayer...

1) -- **Prayer is not bondage to a ritual we have to do.**

**It is the outflow of a loving relationship with our God.**

2) – **Pray big prayers to a big God!**

1. **Don't limit God's power.** Ephesians 3:20 *Now glory be to God! By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope.*

2. **Don't limit God love for you** – Ephesians 3:18 *And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is*

**Don't limit God's plans for this world**

That means He is not willing that any of the almost five billion people who don't know Jesus Christ as their Forgiver and Leader should die without knowing His forgiveness and leadership in their lives.

It means we should pray for great sums of time, talent and treasures to be given to reach out to our world with the message of the Good News of God's love for all.

Our prayer has been, **"Lord, teach us to pray."** We now know how. The question now is, **Will We Pray? May we answer, "YES!" and watch God work His miracles and His kindness in and through our lives.**

Tom Allen

*Pray Along*

*Dear God thanks for books, media and resources equipping my faith to follow you closer day by day.*

*Lord, just as you have used many other multimedia ministries, I pray you enlarge the territory of this church and bless millions. Lord I am asking beyond what I can imagine right now. Do what may seem impossible to me and multiple the ministry of Point of Grace to bless the globe in ways I have never dreamed of. Use me and my prayers too.*

*Give me ownership of this dream to disciple.*

Learn to worship God as the God who does wonders, who wishes to prove in you that He can do something supernatural and divine.

Andrew Murray

I have seen God dissolve resentments, resolve frustrations, fill lonely hearts with new love, and wash away hurts like a new wave washes away scars on sand scratched by children's sticks. E.M. Bounds

God can get you out of a rut, onto a new road, and over the mountain that seemed impassable, if you will be patient and wait on Him, believing for His answer. I have seen God turn juvenile delinquents into great men, criminals into good citizens, alcoholics into church leaders. unknown

The person who wins is the one who never forgets that after the night comes a new day, after winter comes Spring, after the storm comes the sun-drenched earth, after sin comes forgiveness, after defeat comes another chance! unknown

## Day 14 - Praying For Keeps Journal

### Faith to Believe There is Nothing Too Hard for God to Do

Hebrews 11:1-2 & 6 “What is faith?

It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen.

It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see.

God gave His approval to people in days of old because of their faith...

So, you see, it is impossible to please God without faith.

Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that there is a God and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.”

#1 – Think of four areas where God has given you faith to believe beyond yourself and you have acted on that faith.

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#2 – Thank God for the faith to believe and for the results of faith.

#3 – Think of two areas where you currently need bold faith to take some step which is humanly frightening or impossible, yet you believe it is God’s will for you.

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#4 – Pray for the faith to believe that nothing is too hard for God to do. Thank Him, in advance, for His faith to believe and answer to your need.

## We have a God who delights in doing the impossible.

~ Andrew Murray

**God will do the impossible if we  
pray and believe...** Tom Allen

Consider the following portion of an interview with Bill Bright who founded Campus Crusade for Christ with best selling Purpose Driven Author and Saddleback Pastor Rick Warren. Rick asked Bill about the early days of the mission's work...

*Warren:* If you could go back to your first year of ministry, is there anything you'd do different? Are there some successful mistakes that you'd say, "I learned not to do that again!"

*Bright:* I think the most important thing I've learned -- in a positive way -- is to encourage people to pray. Before we began our ministry at UCLA, we organized a 24-hour prayer chain, dividing the 24 hours into 96 15-minute periods. As a result, in almost every meeting we had at UCLA -- faculty, sorority, fraternity and dormitory -- people indicated their desire to follow Christ.

*Warren:* That's the power of prayer.

*Bright:* I think more recently, in 1994, God taught me the power of fasting and prayer. I think it's the spiritual atomic bomb of all the disciplines.

*And now here is an excerpted prayer plug from a letter Dr Bright wrote just two days before he went to be with the Lord on July 19th 2003.*

Dr Bright writes... "As long as you have breath, God's Word commands you to praise Him, and He also has something for you to do.

There are many possibilities. Perhaps you can be a prayer intercessor. There is not a more important job in the body of Christ than that of an intercessor.

You can be a prayer intercessor while confined to a bed or a wheelchair. You pray literally anywhere. If you do not have the strength to pray aloud, you can whisper. If you cannot whisper, you can move your lips. If you cannot move your lips, then pray silently, in your mind. God knows and reads your heart.

Your humble prayers can actually help change your world! Are you still breathing? Then be encouraged, and get busy!"

Bill Bright

Download the FREE screensaver and photo poster desktops for the “Praying For Keeps” theme which include these prayer prompting quotes.

A satisfying prayer life elevates and purifies every act of body and mind and integrates the entire personality into a single spiritual unit. In the long pull we pray only as well as we live.

~ A. W. Tozer

God does not delay to hear our prayers because He has no mind to give; but that, by enlarging our desires, He may give us the more largely.

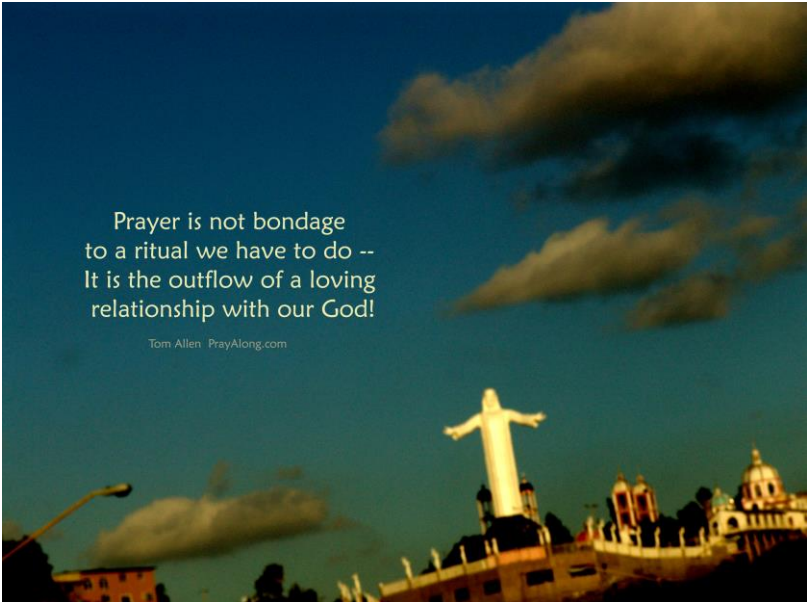
~ *Anselm of Canterbury*

Prayer is not eloquence, but earnestness; not the definition of helplessness, but the feeling of it; not figures of speech, but earnestness of soul.

~ *Hannah More*

God never gives us discernment in order that we may criticize, but that we may intercede.

~ *Oswald Chambers*





Maybe after all this prayer you realize it is time to confirm your belief in Jesus. Is it time for you to take the step of faith and become a Christian? We talk to God by prayer and a sample prayer that may express the desire of your heart is below.

**Dear God I admit that I have sinned against you.  
I want to turn from the sin that separates us and repent.  
I need your forgiveness. Now I'm convinced when Jesus  
died he took punishment I deserved for my sins.**

**I now recognize that You invite me to be with you and that only  
Jesus can clean me, erase my sin debt and replace my identity to be  
holy for entrance into heaven. I thankfully accept your wonderful  
offer of eternal life.**

**I gladly receive your gift of grace and by faith I believe in Jesus.  
He is my Lord, my Shepard and my Forgiver.**

**I want to be your child and live in heaven with You after I die.  
Thanks for revealing Your great love for me.  
May I glorify You and live my life as a Thank-You for  
all you've save me from and given me in Jesus.**

**SEARCH** Psalm 39:23,24 Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive  
way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

*(Download the scripture song of this verse at [PoetTree.com](http://PoetTree.com))*

We hope and pray that resources at *PrayingForKeeps.com* continue  
to bless you, your family and your personal ministry.

Thanks for taking this 14-day journey.