



LOVE YOUR LEGACY · MINI EDITION NO. 3

Prayer

Seven Days of Learning to Talk With God

*“The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him
in truth.”*

PSALM 145:18, NIV

PREPARED BY

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"The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." (Psalm 145:18, NIV)

An opening prayer

Father, teach me to pray. Not to perform, not to impress, not to find prettier words. Just to come to You, the way a child comes to a father who is already listening. Walk with me through these seven days. In Jesus' name, Amen.

A word before the seven days

Seven days, taken slowly, one each day if you can. There is no catching up and no falling behind. If a day takes you three days, it was still Day One done well. Keep a pen near. Let the pages get messy. Prayer is not a subject to master. It is a conversation to live in, and conversations are learned by having them.



Day One — Come As You Are

READ HIS WORD

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:16, NIV)

With confidence. Not with your best behaviour, not with your words rehearsed. With confidence, the way a child climbs into a lap that has never once been closed to her.

THE DEVOTIONAL

Prayer is talking to God, and it is simpler than you think. These are Tay's own words from the ministry, and they are the best place to start:

"Come as you are. No fancy words needed. Talk to Him like a Father who loves you, and tell Him what is really going on, not the polished version. Listen too. Prayer is a conversation, not a speech. When you are done, just say Amen. That is it. You are praying."

Start today. Find a quiet spot, a chair or a corner, and tell Him what is on your heart. "Jesus slipped away to quiet places, and so can you."

Most people delay prayer until they feel presentable. God invites you before that. The throne is a throne of grace, and grace is for the unpresentable, the unfinished, the ones who arrived in their kitchen clothes with tears still wet. Come as you are today. He has never once wanted the polished version of you. He wants you.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

Read Psalm 62:8. "Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge." Pour out, the way you tip a full pitcher and let it all go. What would change about your praying if you poured instead of presented?

SIT WITH THIS

What is the unpolished version of what is on your heart today? If it helps, start here: "Father, the real thing going on with me is..."

WRITE IT DOWN

Write today's prayer to Him in plain words, exactly as it comes. Leave the crossed-out words in. They are part of the honesty.

LET'S PRAY

Father, here I am, as I am. I receive Your mercy, and I find Your grace, and I thank You that the door was never locked. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Day Two — Our Father

READ HIS WORD

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." (Matthew 6:9-13, NIV)

Jesus did not give us a script to recite at speed. He gave us a shape, like a hand to hold while we learn to walk.

THE DEVOTIONAL

Walk the prayer slowly, one line resting in your hands at a time. Our Father: you are not approaching a stranger or a judge first. You are approaching a Father, and not yours alone, ours, which means this prayer makes a family of everyone praying it. Hallowed be your name: before any asking, there is honouring, a settling of the heart in who He is. Your kingdom come, your will be done: prayer bends our will toward His, and discovers, bending, that His will was kinder than ours all along. Give us today our daily bread: today, bread, enough. God teaches His children to live one day at a time in His hands. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive: receiving and releasing, tied together in one breath. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us: a child asking a Father to steer the road away from the cliff edge.

Pray it today one line at a time, and after each line, say the line's meaning back to Him in your own words. That pause is where the prayer becomes yours.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

Read Matthew 6:5-8, the words just before the prayer. Jesus warns against praying to be seen, and against babbling on as if God needed convincing. Then He says the gentlest sentence in the chapter: "for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." Reflect: If He already knows, why ask at all? What does asking do in you that receiving without asking never could?

SIT WITH THIS

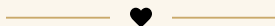
Which line of the prayer do you rush past? If it helps, start here: "Father, the line I always hurry over is..." Stay with that one today.

WRITE IT DOWN

Write the Lord's Prayer out in your own words, line by line, as you would say it at your own table. Keep your version. It is allowed to grow as you do.

LET'S PRAY

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Let Your kingdom come in my small world today, and let Your will be done in me the way it is in heaven, gladly. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Day Three — When You Don't Know What to Say

READ HIS WORD

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." (Romans 8:26-27, NIV)

We do not know what we ought to pray for. Paul wrote that about all of us, and heaven treats it not as a failure but as the very place the Spirit steps in.

THE DEVOTIONAL

There will be days the words will not come. A hospital corridor. A phone call. A kitchen at 2 AM with the kettle cold beside you. On those days you may sit in front of God with nothing but tears, and feel you have failed at prayer entirely.

Hear this from Scripture's own mouth. Wordless is not prayerless. The Spirit of God Himself takes your groaning, your silence, your one-word help, and He carries it to the Father translated into exactly what you meant. You are never praying alone, and you are never praying badly when all you can bring is your presence and your pain.

Some prayers in the Bible are long and beautiful. One of the holiest is two syllables long. Jesus, hold me, prayed at the bottom of the valley, is heard in heaven as clearly as any cathedral choir. Bring Him the small true thing. He knows what to do with it.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

Read 1 Samuel 1, the story of Hannah. She prayed in such silent anguish that Eli the priest thought she was drunk. Her answer is one of the bravest lines in Scripture: "I was pouring out my soul to the Lord." Reflect: What have you been holding in because it felt too raw to say? What would pouring it out look like for you, today, honestly?

SIT WITH THIS

Is there a prayer you have stopped praying because the words ran out? If it helps, start here: "Lord, about this, I have nothing left to say except..."

WRITE IT DOWN

Write the prayer you cannot say. If sentences will not come, write single words, names, dates. God reads fragments the way a mother reads a child's face, completely.

LET'S PRAY

Holy Spirit, pray in me what I cannot say. Take the groaning and the silence and carry them home to the Father. I trust You with the words I do not have. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Day Four — Praying God's Word

READ HIS WORD

"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." (Psalm 119:105, NIV)

THE DEVOTIONAL

One of the surest ways to pray is to borrow God's own words and pray them back to Him. Not because He needs reminding. Because we do. When you pray Scripture, you are agreeing with heaven out loud, and your heart learns to want what He wants by saying what He said.

Here is a simple way, four small movements. Read a verse slowly. Thank God for what it shows about Him. Confess where your life has not matched it, without shame, the way you would straighten a picture in His house. Ask Him for what the verse holds, for yourself and for the people on your heart. That is all. A single verse, prayed this way, can carry a whole morning.

Start with Psalm 23 if you do not know where to begin. The Lord is my shepherd: thank You that You lead me. I lack nothing: forgive me for the hours I lived as if I were abandoned. Walk through it line by line and watch it turn into the most personal prayer you have prayed in weeks.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

Read Daniel 9:1-19. Daniel is reading Jeremiah's prophecy when prayer breaks out of him. The word of God he had just read becomes the prayer he prays, confession, mercy, and God's own promises carried back to God's own ears. Reflect: Which promise of God have you read but never actually prayed? What changes when

you bring His own words back to Him, respectfully, like a child reminding a father of a promise the father is delighted to keep?

SIT WITH THIS

Choose one verse you love. Read it again as a prayer in waiting. Where does it ask to be thanked for, confessed, or claimed? Start here: "Lord, Your word says... and so I am asking..."

WRITE IT DOWN

Write out your chosen verse, and beneath it, your prayer built from it, in your own words. Keep this page. You will pray it again.

LET'S PRAY

Father, thank You for giving me words when mine run thin. Teach me to pray Your word back to You, until it sounds like my own heart speaking. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Day Five — Listening & Waiting

READ HIS WORD

"Be still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10, NIV)

"The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." (Lamentations 3:25-26, NIV)

THE DEVOTIONAL

Prayer is a conversation, and conversations have two directions. Most of us were taught to bring God our words. Fewer of us were taught to bring Him our quiet, and to expect Him, in His own time and way, to speak into it.

Listening in prayer is not emptying your mind into a void. It is settling, the way tea settles as it steeps, and letting what He has already said rise to the top. He speaks clearest through His word, which is why listening usually begins with an open Bible and an unhurried heart. He speaks through a verse that will not leave you, through a godly friend's offhand sentence, through a deep settling of peace. He is rarely in a hurry, and His silence is never His absence. A father can be in the room, fully present, saying nothing, because nothing needs saying yet.

Waiting is the part nobody volunteers for, and the part where the deepest roots grow. If you are waiting on God about something today, you are not behind in your faith. You are in one of its holiest rooms.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

Read 1 Samuel 3. A boy hears his name in the night and learns, from an old priest, the five words that open a lifetime of listening:

"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." Reflect: When did you last give God silence long enough to finish a sentence? What might He have been saying lately, through His word or His people, that you have been too hurried to hear?

SIT WITH THIS

What are you waiting on God for, right now, said plainly? If it helps, start here: "Lord, the thing I am waiting for is..." Then practise the hardest line in this book: and I will wait with You, not apart from You.

WRITE IT DOWN

After five minutes of quiet today, write anything that surfaced, a verse, a name, a settling, a single word. Write also what the silence felt like. Honest records of waiting become precious later.

LET'S PRAY

Lord, speak, for Your servant is listening. Quiet me enough to hear You, and give me the grace to wait well, close to You, for as long as the waiting lasts. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Day Six — Praying for Others

READ HIS WORD

"For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives." (Colossians 1:9, NIV)

Paul prayed, without stopping, for people he had never met. Love prays at a distance, and heaven does not charge for the miles.

THE DEVOTIONAL

Intercession is a long word for a simple, tender act: standing between God and someone you love, and saying their name in His presence. You will do some of your holiest work this way, unseen, in kitchens and cars and hospital parking lots, for people who may never know it was you.

Pray for others the way Paul did, specifically. Not a vague bless them, though God receives even that kindly. Name their need. Name His promise over it. Pray for their courage, their marriage, their prodigal, their diagnosis, their sleep. Specific prayers build a specific kind of love, because you cannot carry a person's name to God daily and stay indifferent to them. Prayer is how God softens us toward the very people we pray for.

Keep a small list. Names fade from memory faster than they fade from God's heart, so write them down, and let this little book's page be the first list you keep.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

Read Ephesians 6:18. "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and

always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." All occasions, all kinds, all the Lord's people. Reflect: Who taught you, by their example, what it means to keep on praying for someone? Whose name has God quietly placed on your heart this week?

SIT WITH THIS

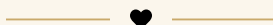
Who needs your prayers most right now, and what exactly will you ask for them? Start here: "Father, for her, for him, I am asking You for..."

WRITE IT DOWN

Begin your prayer list on this page. Names, and beside each, one line, the need, and today's date. Leave room. Answered prayers deserve to be recorded beside the asking.

LET'S PRAY

Father, I bring You the people I love, by name. You know what each one needs before I say it, and still You let me say it, because You are kind. Meet them where I cannot reach. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Day Seven — A Life of Prayer

READ HIS WORD

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV)

Pray continually. Not pray anxiously, not pray formally, all day long. Pray the way you breathe, because you have discovered that the God you were visiting in the morning has been walking with you all along.

THE DEVOTIONAL

Seven days ago, prayer may have felt like a place you had to go and behave in. Look where you are now. You have come as you are. You have prayed your Father's own prayer. You have prayed wordless, and prayed His word back to Him. You have listened, and waited, and carried other people's names into His presence. There is one gift left in this little book, and it is the largest: a life of prayer.

A life of prayer is not a life spent on your knees. It is a life spent aware. The kettle goes on, and gratitude rises with the steam. The hard email arrives, and help is asked before panic sets in. Someone's face crosses your mind at the grocery store, and instead of dismissing it, you learn to say their name to God right there between the aisles. Prayer stops being an event on your schedule and becomes the air your day breathes.

Daniel prayed three times a day with his windows open, in ordinary faithfulness, long before the lions. That is why, when the crisis came, he knew exactly where to kneel. Build your small rhythms now,

morning, mealtimes, the drive, the last waking minute, and they will hold you on the days when nothing else feels like it can.

This little book ends here, but the conversation does not. He is near to all who call on Him. Call on Him for the rest of your life.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE

Read Daniel 6:10. "Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before." Just as he had done before. Reflect: What small rhythm of prayer could you keep, just as you have done these seven days, so that it is already standing when you need it most?

SIT WITH THIS

What has changed in how you think about prayer since Day One? If it helps, start here: "Lord, I used to think prayer was... and now I am learning it is..."

WRITE IT DOWN

Write your rhythm here. The times and places you will meet Him daily, small enough to keep, real enough to matter. Then write the date. A year from now, this page will make you smile.

LET'S PRAY

Father, thank You for these seven days, and for every day of prayer still ahead of me. Keep me near. Teach me to live aware of You, grateful in all circumstances, and quick to call Your name. This is the life I want. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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