

# PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE



*AW*  
DAUGHTER IN WAITING  
MINISTRY

“And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.”

Luke 18:1

## *Prayer Life*

Throughout the bible, we are told that God inclines his ears to us. In “The Parable of the Persistent Widow” in Luke 18, God tells us to stay consistent in our prayer life. Psalm 65:2 tells us that he hears our prayers. When we speak, he listens. Prayer is a powerful way to express ourselves and draw closer to God. Prayer should be a part of our daily walk with God but unfortunately, it isn’t always. We grow tired. We grow weary. We grow discouraged. We grow bored. We feel we are being too repetitive. We become too busy. With conflicting schedules, it can be hard to simply sit down and find the time to pray. Prayer can even like a chore at times.

This PDF guide (with ESV bible translation) was created to inspire you to pray in a way that’s straightforward. You have a bible? That’s all you need! Allow this guide to teach you how to pray regardless of what your circumstance, your environment, or your day looks like.

# Why pray with scripture?

## MATTHEW 4:10

In Matthew 4, Jesus quotes Deuteronomy 8:3 when he's being tempted in the wilderness.

## MATTHEW 9:13

In Matthew 9, Jesus quotes Hosea 6:6 after hearing the criticism of the Pharisees.

## MATTHEW 27:46

In Matthew 27, Jesus quotes Psalm 22 when he's hung on the cross praying to God The Father.

During his earthly ministry, Jesus spoke and quoted scripture. When we pray with scripture, we follow a biblical example on how we can pray using the word of God. We also follow in Jesus' footsteps. Here are some additional benefits to praying with scripture:

## FOLLOW JESUS

- Aligns us to God's will
- Motivates us to keep praying
- Encourages us to memorize scripture
- Guides and teaches us what to pray for
- Guides and teaches us what to say while we're praying
- Strengthens our faith that God can do for us more than we ask or think (Ephesians 3:20)

# PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE

# Where to start?

## READING SCRIPTURE

“I have stored up  
your word in my  
heart, that I might  
not sin against you.”

Psalm 119:11

The book of Ecclesiastes tells us that there's nothing new under the sun. No matter what you're going through or what prayer you want answered, someone in the bible has already walked in your shoes.

### 1 READ

We won't know what scripture to use in our prayer life or know which biblical individuals have walked in our shoes if we don't spend time reading the bible. Spend time reading, spend time studying, spend time around others who are reading, studying, and teaching.

### 2 OBSERVE

As you read your bible, notice what stands out. Is there an individual who prayed for something you want done in your life and God answered them? Does this circumstance apply to your current situation? What is the scripture that draws you? What is the context, the lessons learned, and how can you apply it towards your current situation?

### 3 TAKE NOTES

Highlight, use sticky notes, draw, type - do whatever you enjoy that helps you remember and apply the scripture you've read and studied. Once a text or scripture has spoken to your heart, move on towards praying with it.

# How to pray with scripture?

## MEDITATE ON THE WORD

What about this passage, scripture, or text excites you and gives you hope towards your circumstance?

Bring it to God.



Dear Heavenly Father:

In ISAIAH 55:11, you tell us that your word does not return to you empty.

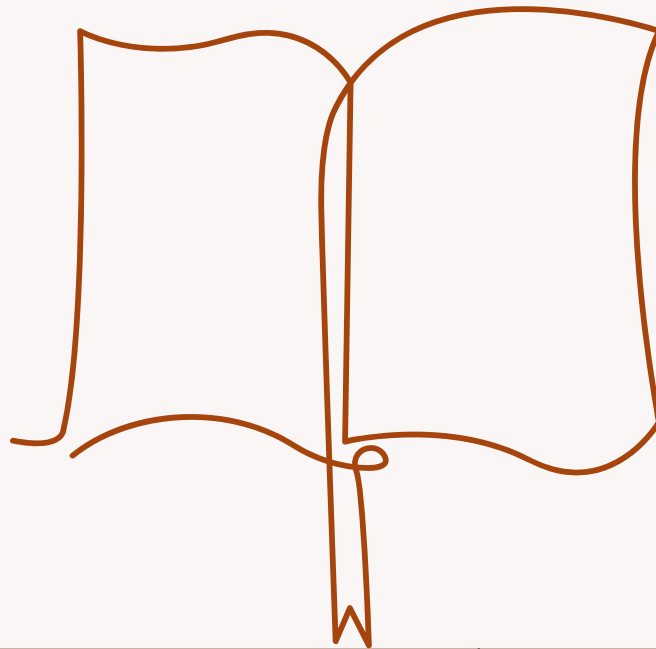
Today, I lift up your word { SCRIPTURE } and I pray towards {CIRCUMSTANCE}. Since you did it for {BIBLICAL INDIVIDUAL} in {BIBLICAL PASSAGE OR CHAPTER}, I know you can do it for me. You tell me in Mark 10:27 that with man it is impossible but with you nothing is. I believe by faith that you can do this for me.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

# Example Prayers

The following pages include  
example prayers you can  
personalize or use to create  
your own.



# Observation - Healing

When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, **he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?”** The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” **Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.”** And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

John 5:6-9

## OBSERVATIONS

- Jesus challenged the man to believe him for what he knew the man thought was impossible
- Despite the man's hopelessness, Jesus guided the man to respond with more faith by asking him to get up
- This text shows us that God's healing ability doesn't depend on whether or not we have less or more faith. We just have to show up like this man did when he showed up at the pool of Bethesda that day

# Healing Prayer

Dear Jesus,

In John 5:6, you asked the man who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years whether or not he wanted to be healed. According to Hebrews 13:8, you tell us that you are the same yesterday, today, and forever. I lift up this scripture to you Lord because I want to be healed. I am struggling with {HEALING YOU'RE PRAYING FOR} and I ask for healing today in your name. I pray Lord that as you commanded the man in John 5:8 to walk, I pray that I, too, can get up, pick up my mat, and walk. I pray that I can be freed and delivered from this sickness {DISEASE, CANCER, MENTAL HEALTH, DIET, ANXIETY, ETC.} I'm battling with. I pray that I can be freed and delivered from this disease that is crippling me. I pray for healing on this day.

In Your Mighty Name I Pray,

Amen

# Observation - Marriage

So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Genesis 2:21-25

## OBSERVATIONS

- God used Adam's own body to create Eve - symbolizing that they are to spiritually be one flesh in marriage
- Adam instantly recognized Eve when he woke up from his sleep - symbolizing that the husband should be able to recognize the woman that is to be his wife
- Adam is commanded to hold fast onto Eve - symbolizing that the husband should always prioritize his wife and marriage



# Marriage Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

In Genesis 2:24, you say that a man should hold fast onto his wife and leave his father and mother. You say that both spouses should become one flesh. I pray for my spouse. I pray that my spouse is someone who takes initiative and instantly recognizes me as their spouse as Adam recognized Eve in Genesis 2:23. I pray that not only do we become one flesh in marriage, but that we also hold steadfast onto each other. I pray that we prioritize our marriage and support one another. Please send me the spouse you have for me and allow them to recognize me as the bone of their bones and flesh of their flesh as Adam proclaimed in Genesis 2:23.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

# Observation - Community

Then the king gave Daniel high honors and many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king's court.

Daniel 2:48-49

## OBSERVATIONS

- Daniel always brought his friends with him. Throughout the book of Daniel, his friends always remained with him
- Daniel's immediate reaction, when blessed by the king, was to ask for his friends to also be blessed

# Community Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

I notice while reading your word that you value community and friendship. Even in Proverbs 27:17, you tell me that iron sharpens iron. While reading the text, I love how considerate Daniel always is of his friends. I pray for friendship and community like this. As Daniel requested in Daniel 2:49 for his friends to also receive blessings, I pray that you can bless me with friends who are supportive, thoughtful, and kind. I pray that you surround me with a community of individuals who are loving; a community I'm able to grow with; a community I'm able to be myself around; a community I can pour into as they pour into me. I pray that my friendships can enrich me like the friendships I've witnessed while reading Daniel's story.

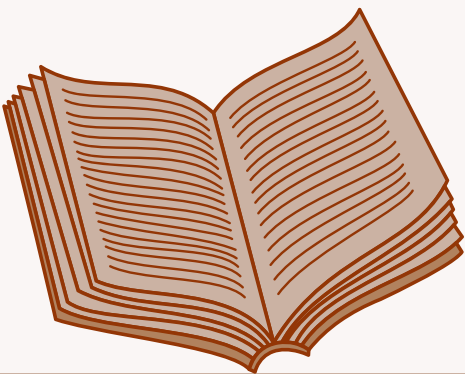
In Jesus' Name,

Amen

# Prayer on the go

DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME? THAT'S OKAY.  
PRAY ON THE GO.

- HIGHLIGHT DIRECTLY IN YOUR BIBLE.
- WRITE ON NOTECARDS.
- PLACE STICKY NOTES OR TABS ON YOUR SCRIPTURES OF CHOICE IN YOUR BIBLE OR IN A NOTEBOOK YOU CAN CARRY WITH YOU.
- OPEN YOUR BIBLE AND PRAY USING THIS QUICK LIST.
- OR PAINT/DRAW WHAT THE SCRIPTURE REPRESENTS TO YOU AND PRAY INTO THAT WHENEVER YOU CAN.



Remember, God is a personal God. Do what works best for you and your relationship with him. Make it fun and make it personal. Pray with scripture however it pleases you to want to pray.

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# Resources

[Bible Gateway](#)

[YouVersion Bible App](#)

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