

# Prayer Power Tower

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## Preparation

Often in life we are perplexed by the intensity and work that need to go into our relationships with each other – compromising, being nice when you may not feel like it, not to mention the amount of time that you must be attentive to the other's need and wants. But for a people who were chosen by God to be His people, the rules may have seemed very simple – *if only* they had followed them! *“People of Israel, what does the LORD your God want from you? The LORD wants you to respect and follow Him, to love and serve Him with all your heart and soul, and to obey His laws and teachings that I am giving you today. Do this, and all will go well for you. Everything belongs to the LORD your God, not only the earth and everything on it, but also the sky and the highest heavens. Yet the LORD loved your ancestors and wanted them to belong to Him. So He chose them and their descendants rather than any other nation, and today you are still His people. Remember your agreement with the LORD and stop being so stubborn. The LORD your God is more powerful than all other gods and lords, and His tremendous power is to be feared. His decisions are always fair, and you cannot bribe Him to change His mind. The LORD defends the rights of orphans and widows. He cares for foreigners and gives them food and clothing. And you should also care for them, because you were foreigners in Egypt. Respect the LORD your God, serve only Him, and make promises in His name alone. Offer your praises to Him, because you have seen Him work such terrifying miracles for you. When your ancestors went to live in Egypt, there were only seventy of them. But the LORD has blessed you, and now there are more of you than there are stars in the sky”* (Deuteronomy 10:12-22 CEV). Remembering that the Lord wants you to love and respect Him with all your heart and soul, come to this hour of intentional conversation with your Father, listening for His response.

## Scripture

Having answered any questions or misconceptions, Paul reiterates the guilt and corruption of all people (Romans 3:9-18). As you read these inspired words, consider the wonder of it all, that we should be recipients of God's tender mercies.

- The words the apostle speaks here are not new, especially to his Jewish readers (3:10-12). These words, found in the

Psalms (14:1-3), still carry a very weighty message: we are all charged, convicted of the same indiscretions. Without the grace of our Lord, we would all be found guilty, subject to His just punishment. Do you chafe at Paul's boldness in making such a universal indictment: *No one* righteous; *All* have turned aside? If so, remember that he writes under the sure guidance of the Holy Spirit, as he quotes from the Old Testament. What will you do with his accusations?

- In so many ways, we who were made good find the means to show evil (3:13-14). By the cruelty of our words, the deceit and lying of our lips, and the cursing even of our God, we demonstrate the sinful nature of our very existence.
- It is not only with our mouths that we err, but also through our actions (3:16-17). We may be shocked by the unimaginable acts that people commit today. But the people of Paul's culture surely knew the evil of mankind's mind! Consider your first reaction when someone does harm or injustice to you or your family. If you wish them harm in retaliation, then you also struggle with the “way of peace.”

## Adoration

Of all your life's relationships, who do you think loved you more than any other? It's a rhetorical question! Jesus loves you more than any other – always has, always will. Rejoice in that!

### No One Loves You So

Alfred Barratt, 1919

*Are the burdens you carry too heavy to bear?  
Does the weight of your sin fill your heart with despair?  
Go to Jesus for aid, He will answer your prayer;  
There is no one who loves you so.*

**Refrain:** There is no one who loves you like Jesus,  
No one who loves you so;  
For the cross you lay down  
He will give you a crown;  
There is no one who loves you so.

*Do you think in your sorrow you suffer alone?  
All your grief and your sadness to Him are made known;  
He hath never forsaken or turned from His own;  
There is no one who loves you so. Refrain*

*He alone can redeem you from darkness and woe;  
He will wash all your sins till they're white as the snow,  
And His wonderful grace you may constantly know;  
There is no one who loves you so. Refrain*

## Confession

Detailing much of our evil in his letter to the Christians at Rome, the Apostle Paul surely does not beat around the bush! He confronts us with our sin, and pinpoints the root cause of our behavior – no fear of God (Romans 3:18)! We may say we don't fear God because He is a loving, forgiving God. We may also demonstrate our lack of fear, or awe, at His almighty power over us because we live in a modern age. We can explain why the sky is blue, how weather patterns are formed. We can even explain to some degree the wonders of our birth as we track the development of a fetus in the womb. So why do we need to worry about a god? Are we not capable of taking care of ourselves, based on the wisdom of engineers and biologists? If that is your belief, then you have forgotten or neglected the awe and wonder of the Creator and His creation. As you come to this time of confession, seek first to have your eyes opened to a new vision of the Almighty, and then seek forgiveness for the subtle and even outright acts that you unconsciously commit – acting out of lack of fear for God. It is too wonderful to overlook, too dangerous to ignore!

When you've finished your prayers of confession, praise God for what He here declares about Himself in His eternal word:

*I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins. I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, and like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.* (Isaiah 43:25, 44:22 NKJV)

Rejoice in the Good News: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

## Thanksgiving

Even though we fall into the snare of evil and sin, there is never enough rejoicing and thanksgiving for the grace and mercy of our loving God!

- Thank God for ability to increase your personal vocabulary – and the ways those new words can glorify your Lord.
- Thank Him for those in your life who taught you the reverent fear and awe of our mighty God.
- Give thanks for knowing ways to express your feelings without profanity or crude language.
- Thank God that we have been given incredible wisdom through His choosing.
- Thank Him that even with the scientific explanation of aspects of creation, you can still be awestruck at its beauty.
- Rejoice and speak: “O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and You have promised these good things to Your servant” (2 Samuel 7:28 NIV).

## Supplication

The Bible assures us that “*The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results*” (James 5:16b NLT). Intimidated by the “righteous” part? Be encouraged by the truth that God gives to all believers the very righteousness of Christ, and pray confidently, even boldly – especially for those who stand shoulder to shoulder with you in this great ministry of prayer.

Daniel Adams, Kristen Agnew, Audrey and Bill Allen, Corinne Baker, Jon Baker, Cyndy Beech, Joyce Bett, Ed and Goldie Black, Betty Bowser, Barbara and David ‘Skip’ Byers, Jan Carr, Lisa Cook, Ray and Jane Cornelius, Jennifer and John Culp, Ed Daggitt, Gina Brenda Dolan, Jane Dunmire, Ruth Dykstra Entwistle, Mickey Edmiston, Becky Elliott, Janice Good, Dorothy Gooden, Kathleen Graham, Dorothy Henderson, John and Marilyn Hicks, Joy Holland, Suzanne Howat, Gail Jablonovsky, Alberta Keener, Louise Keough, Joann Kettler, Dana Krepps, Michelle Kurtz, Donna Lewis, Jean Longnecker, Linda Longwell, Rich Madsen, Don McAninch, Myrna Jane McCamey, Greg McElroy, Colleen McGaffic, Bob and Joanne Miller, Sandy Minor, Shirley Minshull, Jane and John Moser, Alan and Terry Northcott, Sean O’Brien, Edna Orange, Phyllis Osborne, Hazel Palmer, Joan Pashley, Jeannette Patterson, Nancy Rankin, Joanne Raymer, Andrea and Tod Reiser, Rachael Renick, Megan (Illsley) Sateia, Erin Scott, John Snow, Mary Jane Surrena, Charles Timmons, Beth Utsch, \*\*DJ Wagner, Betty Walters, Toni Walters, Alice Winger, Tami Witzke and Chris Yeakle. **\*\*New to our praying team!☺☺**

- Please ask God for His continued guidance and blessing as we move ahead with our new entrance/elevator project.
- Please pray specifically that He will be preparing the hearts and minds of all who will provide the funds to cover the costs of the project.
- Please pray for all who labor with our Mission Team, helping lead us in doing Christ’s work in the world.
- Please pray for choir director David Adams (and wife Amy) in his important work of helping us to glorify God.
- Please ask God to bless the music of our weekly worship, that it will lift our hearts and glorify His great name.
- Please pray for Rob Collins and Esther Wakeman as they work for Christ in mission to Thailand.
- Please ask God to challenge each of us to grow into truly being, more and more, *People helping people to know Jesus Christ*.
- Please ask God to continue to bring great people to us, that together we might glorify His great name.