



Pastor David's Weekly Devotional

There are many challenges, or obstacles, to being faithfully committed to prayer. Even when we overcome the distractions to pray, and the excuses to not pray, it can sometimes be difficult to know what to pray – to know what to say or what to pray for. Most likely, every Christian has struggled with this difficulty at one time or another. The best pragmatic advice I can give is to pray the Scriptures. Here are several passages of Scriptures that can be used to easily shape and guide our prayers: 1Chron.16:8-36; Ps.5; 8; 51; 86; 92; 139; 145; Jon.2; Matt.6:5-14; Acts 4:23-26; Eph.1:15-23; 3:14-21; Phil.1:9-11; 2Thess.1:3-12 (see “Praying the Bible” by Donald S. Whitney, and “Praying with Paul” by D.A. Carson).

As the phrase suggests, praying the Scriptures refers to the practice of using Scripture as the basis of your prayer. This helps our prayers to be guided by and centered on God's Word. Praying Scripture enables us to pray the same things in different ways and leads us to pray in new and deeper ways. It also follows the example set by Jesus (Matt.27:46; Lk.23:46) and the early church (Acts 4:23-26).

Another great resource for aiding and guiding our prayers is praying biblically saturated, Gospel-centered, Christ-honoring songs. We are truly blessed to live in an era where there are so many good Christian songwriters and publishers (here are several of my most favorite: Sovereign Grace Music; Getty Music; CityAlight; Matt Papa; Hymns of Grace; The Sing! Hymnal). Good Christian music can inflame the heart and expand the mind through beautiful music and doctrinally rich lyrics. In addition, its poetry can uniquely and deeply implant precious theological truths into our memories. Here is one great example:

A CHRISTIAN'S DAILY PRAYER

As morning dawns and day awakes, to You I bring my need
O gracious God, my source of strength, in You I live and breathe
Each hour is Yours by wisdom planned,
Each deed empowered by sovereign hands
Renew my spirit, help me stand, be glorified today

As day unfolds, I seek Your will in all of life's demands
And though the tempter tries me still, I cling to Your commands
Let every effort of my life
Display the matchless worth of Christ
Make me a living sacrifice; be glorified today

As sun gives way to darkest night Your Spirit still is here
And though my strength fades like the light, new mercies will appear
I rest in You; abide with me
Until our trials and suffering
Give way to final victory; be glorified, today
Be glorified, I pray

Music and Words by Matt Merker, Jordan Kauflin, and Dave Fournier
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<https://sovereigngracemusic.org/music/songs/christians-daily-prayer/>

Together in and for Christ,
Pastor David
(7/6/26)

Scripture Readings for the Week (Monday – Sunday ~ Week #27):

Leviticus 10-12; 2 Kings 1-5; Psalms 78-80; Proverbs 8-9; Ezekiel 19-24; Luke 17-18; Philippians 3-4

Recommended Reading:

“Hymns of Grace” by The Master's Seminary Press