### **October Devotions**

## **A Prayer Covering**

"Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God, For to you I pray. My voice you shall hear in the morning, O Lord, in the morning I will direct it to you and I will look up. (Psalm 5:2-3)

As believers we have the awesome privilege of seeking almighty God in prayer. The God of heaven and earth, invites us to a "secret place". A place where we come in spirit to adore the Lord and be in His presence and make our prayer requests. The secret place of drawing near to God, that draws Him near to us. So, we lift our hands, and we open our heart to commune with our Heavenly Father. Therefore, let us (with privilege) approach the throne of grace that is, the throne of God's (gracious favor) with confidence and without fear, so that we may receive mercy (for our failures) and find (His amazing) grace to help in time of need (an appropriate blessing, coming just at the right moment). (Hebrews 4:16 Amplified) Prayer, to me, is like putting on clothing to protect and cover ourselves as we begin each new day. Prayer is our line of communication with our heavenly Father. God hears us when we pray. The Bible tells us "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." (1 John 5:14 NIV) We can come to our Heavenly Father and ask for wisdom when we don't know what to do. Prayer is our lifeline. There are numerous scriptures relating to prayer. God wants to hear from us... so, "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)

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**Prayer:** Dear Lord, you do hear us when we prayer. Help us to daily - put on a prayer covering to guide and protect us. Amen

Psalm 91:1, James 4:8, James 1:5

## **God Rejoices Over You**

What a powerful truth—God is not distant or indifferent. Zephaniah 3:17 declares that He is *in your midst*, mighty to save, rejoicing over you with gladness, and singing over you with love. Right where you are today, in the middle of your struggles and victories, God delights in you. His love doesn't wait until you "arrive." Instead, as you set your gaze on Him, His Spirit works within you, shaping and transforming you into the image of Christ. The Father's joy over you is not based on your perfection but on His perfect love.

"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

### 2 Corinthians 3:18

### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Thank God for His delight over you—that His love is constant and unshakable, and ask for a deeper awareness of His joy in your life.
- 2. Pray for daily transformation—that as you behold the Lord, the Holy Spirit would continue shaping you into Christ's likeness.

### The Fullness of God's Love

How much does God love us? Here's how Paul describes it:

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### Romans 8:38-39

"And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." **Ephesians 3:17-19** 

Our God is an awesome God. He is everywhere all at once. He's bigger than the Universe because He created it. God is omniscient. He's all-knowing. God is love. He is truth and justice. And all of God's fullness is dwelling in Christ.

What an awe-inspiring realization it is when we grasp the truth that, as believers, the measure of all the fullness of God's love is available to us through Christ! He doesn't just want to visit with us, He wants to dwell with us. He wants to be with us and He wants us to be with Him forever.

If you're feel isolated, discouraged or insecure, remember that you can NEVER be lost to God's love.

# **Prayer Points:**

- Praise God for His immeasurable and inexhaustible love!
- Ask the Holy Spirit to fill every aspect of your life to the fullest.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment to share the message of God's immeasurable love with others through your words and actions.

## Salt and Light

"Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you."

# (Isaiah 60:1)

Now, in our day, in our culture, that seems so dark, we are the light that shines in the darkness. It's our voices that can rise above the lies and boldly proclaim the truth. So often we hear these words: "It is not a time to be silent." We are to be salt and light in this world. We must use our sword...the word of God to shine the light. "We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and destroy false arguments." (2 Corinthians 10:4 NLT) This verse reminds us of just who we are fighting as stated in Ephesians 6:12 "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." We are called to fight against the darkness with our faith. One young man left a legacy of the words found in 1 Timothy 6:12a "Fight the good fight of faith...." Charlie Kirk spoke the truth with salt and light. Is this our wakeup call?

As believers, we are sad to see our brother in Christ, Charlie Kirk (October 14, 1993-September 10, 2025) be assassinated. In the words of Paul, he said "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7) God called this anointed servant home and now he is "...present with the Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:8) He finished his work. What about you and I? Maybe we are called to be a little bolder in our faith and speak the truth of the gospel, to a generation desperate to hear the truth. We also, are called to be salt and light. Here is something to think about. Words so true:

Only one life, 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last. By: Charles Thomas Studd (1860-1931)

**Prayer:** Father in Heaven, let us hear the cry of your heart for lost souls. Give us new strength and courage through Jesus to proclaim the truth, Jesus saves, to a lost and dying world. In Jesus name. Amen

1 John 1:5, Matthew 5:13-16

# The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation

Psalm 27 is a bold anthem of trust and confidence in God. David declares that the Lord Himself is his light, salvation, and stronghold—truths that remain promises for every child of God today. Let these verses strengthen your faith and become declarations over your life:

- The Lord is my light and my salvation; I have no reason to fear (v.1).
- The Lord is the stronghold of my life; I will not be afraid (v.1).
- When enemies rise against me, they will stumble and fall (v.2).
- Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear; even in war, I will be confident (v.3).
- One thing I ask of the Lord—that I may dwell in His house and gaze upon His beauty all the days of my life (v.4).
- In the day of trouble, He will keep me safe and hide me in His shelter (v.5).
- He will lift me high upon a rock, and I will lift my head above every enemy (v.5–6).
- The Lord will hear me when I call; He will be gracious to me and answer me (v.7).
- He will not cast me off or forsake me, for He is the God of my salvation (v.9–10).
- I believe I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living (v.13).
- As I wait on the Lord, He will strengthen my heart (v.14).

These promises remind us that fear has no hold on the child of God. His presence is our protection, His goodness our confidence, and His faithfulness our hope. Truly, the Lord is our light and our salvation.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

# **Closing Prayer**

Father, I thank You that You are my light, my salvation, and my stronghold. Fear has no place in me, for You are with me. Thank You for hiding me in Your shelter, lifting me above the enemy, and filling me with confidence in Your goodness. Strengthen my heart as I wait on You, and let my life declare that You alone are faithful and true. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### All-In Kind of Faith

When thinking about all-in kind of faith, Job comes to mind. It's hard to fathom the loss and pain he endured. Yet, he never faltered in his faith or blamed God. He continued to bless the name of the Lord and taught us a lot about true worship. **Job 1:20–22** 

Another great example of this steadfast faith is found in Genesis in the story of Abraham and Sarah who waited 25 years for the son God promised them. And then, God asked Abraham to sacrifice his only son as a burnt offering!

But Abraham didn't hesitate. He, his son and their servants took off the next day for a three-day journey to the region of Moriah where God told him to go. Abraham's faith in God was so strong that he said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then **we** will come back to you."

Why didn't Abraham say "I will come back to you" if he was planning to sacrifice his son? His word choice shows his complete trust in God. **Genesis 11:27-25:11** 

The faith and all-in obedience Abraham and Job portrayed is humbling. It should be a reminder to us that God really does love us and that our present challenges aren't worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. **Romans 8:18** 

Without faith it is impossible to please God because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him. **Hebrews 11:6** 

Waiting and worshipping God during uncomfortable or downright painful times isn't what the world teaches. The power of God's promises remain true, even if waiting tests our patience and, sometimes, our faith.

# **Prayer Points:**

- Pray that as you wait on the Lord, He will renew your strength so your faith never waivers.
- Continually seek God for courage and steadfast faith so you can boldly say "Yes" in obedience.
- Thank God for His promises, His mercy, His grace and His love!

## **Drawing Out the Treasure in Others**

Proverbs 20:5 says, "The purposes of a person's heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out." Every person carries God-given value and a royal identity in Christ. Yet often, the world's labels or the enemy's lies try to bury those treasures deep inside. As followers of Jesus, we are called to cultivate an environment where people encounter who Christ says they are—not who their past, their pain, or culture has told them to be.

This requires more than human effort—it requires the wisdom, discernment, and power of the Holy Spirit. With His help, we can speak truth that unlocks hearts, witness boldly yet humbly, and stand firm in all that we have in Christ. When we live this way, we don't just encourage individuals—we impact our circles, our communities, and beyond with the transforming love of God.

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

1 Peter 2:9

"Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." **Colossians 4:6** 

## **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray for wisdom and discernment—to see others as God sees them and call out their true identity in Christ.
- 2. Pray for Spirit-filled boldness and humility—to witness with love and power, becoming an instrument of impact in your community.

### "A New Creation"

"Behold, I will do a new thing. Now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

Jesus Christ died for our sins and now because of His sacrifice on the cross, we have been set free from sin. This means we are no longer captives of our old sinful nature. We no longer have to look back at our past, the life we lived in sin and darkness. Now we walk in newness of life. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold all things have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17) Even though we are a new creation, we can find ourselves tempted by feelings of guilt and shame. God's word is truth, and we fight a battle against these feelings and cling to the word that says: "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8:1 NIV) God sees us as the new creation we are in Christ Jesus. God's word sets us free from our own guilt and shame. Even though we may regret our past, our hope is in Christ who makes all things new. Paul's bold statement is such an encouragement. Paul said, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching toward to those things which are ahead. (Philippians 3:13) Beloved, be encouraged today, God is doing a new thing in your life, and you are a new creation.

Prayer: Father, I am so encouraged by your word. You have made me "new". You have washed me with the blood of your Son, Jesus. The blood of Jesus has cleansed me from all unrighteousness. Thank you for the cross that made me a new creation in Christ Jesus. Amen

John 3:16, Romans 6:18

# **Walking in Your Identity in Christ**

Peter reminds us that God has already given us *everything we need for life and godliness*. This means we don't live out our faith in our own strength but in the power of the Holy Spirit. Through Christ's finished work, we are not striving to *become* something; we are learning to walk in the identity He already secured for us—beloved, redeemed, and empowered.

The promises of God are not distant hopes but present realities that allow us to participate in His divine nature. When we embrace our identity in Christ, the Holy Spirit enables us to escape the corruption of sin and walk in freedom, peace, and authority.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." **2 Corinthians 5:17** 

# **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for a deeper revelation of your identity in Christ—that you would live as a new creation, free from the lies of the enemy and confident in God's promises.

Pray for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit—to walk daily in godliness, displaying Christ's nature in thoughts, words, and actions.

#### Watchman

"O Jerusalem, I have posted watchman on your walls; they will pray day and night, continually. Take no rest, all you who pray to the Lord. Give the Lord no rest until he completes his work, until he makes Jerusalem the pride (King James says praise instead of pride) of the earth. **Isaiah 62:6-7**.

"Just as the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, both now and forever." (Psalm 125:2 NLT) What an honor it is that we are to "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.; May they prosper who love you." (Psalm 122:6) In this season we feel such compassion for the Jewish people and especially those in Israel, living side by side with their enemies. Our hearts go out to all those in Israel who suffered from the evil attack of Hamas on October 7, 2023. Can you even imagine living daily with bomb threats and sirens blaring and then running for your life to a bomb shelter? Such is life in Israel. Israel needs our prayers. We can be a blessing by holding up the needs of Israel to our heavenly Father. "For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say "Peace be within you." (Psalm 122:8) The Lord has declared "...for whoever touches you touches the apple of His eye. (Zechariah 2:8) These are God's chosen people. Israel is their covenant land that God gave to them. All the people of the earth have been blessed because of the Jewish people who gave us Jesus Christ. And as believers, we rejoice because we were adopted into the family of God. Be a watchman and pray for: "The peace of Jerusalem." (Psalm 122:6a) The Lord will hear you and you will have the blessing of the Lord according to (Genesis 12:3).

**Prayer:** Father, we ask you to keep on watching over Isreal and cause the war to cease according to your word. Protect the people and help them to stay strong. I ask for you to open their spiritual eyes and ears that they might know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Amen

#### The Secrets of the Heart

The story of Adam and Eve's first sons, Cain and Abel, is filled with family drama. We don't exactly know why God didn't approve of the offering that sparked Cain's fury, but it becomes quite clear that Cain's heart wasn't right, and God knew this. **Gen 4:2-16** 

Still God showed mercy and grace by telling Cain where he fell short and providing him with guidance on how he could improve. But Cain allowed his anger and jealousy to consume him so deeply that he killed his brother instead of repenting and changing his ways. And then Cain lied when God asked him where his brother was. God had no choice but to punish him.

Yet even the punishment Cain received was a reflection of God's infinite mercy. God allowed Cain to start a new life in a different place and even marked him to prevent him from being killed by others.

Through these acts of mercy, God reminds us that even in spite of our weakness, God is a God of grace and second chances. If we acknowledge our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing.

### 1 John 1:9

But our hearts must be sincere because God knows the secrets of the heart. Psalm 44:21

# **Prayer Points:**

Our earnest prayer should be "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." **Psalm 51:10** 

Acknowledge and confess your sins to God, ask for His forgiveness and repent by committing to change your behavior.

Pray that the words of your mouth and the meditations of your heart will be pleasing to God.