

Praying Through Scripture

Using the bible is great fuel for your prayer life! By praying scripture, you are helping to ensure that your prayers are anchored to God's truth and aligned with God's will.

Passage:

1. **Prepare:** say a brief prayer asking God to help you as you spend time reading his word and talking to him over it, and then read through the passage once before you turn to a time of focused prayer.
2. **Adoration:** praising and worshiping the Triune God's nature and character

One of the most important aspects of prayer is adoring and worshipping God for who he is and what he's like. Every passage of Scripture explicitly teaches or implicitly assumes God's multi-faceted character.

Look for God in your passage of Scripture, and then spend some time adoring him for his infinite greatness and goodness. There's no better way to open in prayer than to acknowledge the worthiness of the one to whom you're praying. As you pray, God by his grace will enable your heart to feel the words you're saying and worship him in Spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

What should you praise God for based on your passage?

3. **Confession:** acknowledging sin and turning from it to God

Acknowledge your own sinfulness in action, word, thought, desire, and motive; giving consideration to both sins of commission and omission. Agree with God that your sin is evil and ask him to cleanse you on the basis of his mercy and Jesus' atoning work.

Look for the sins mentioned or implied in your passage and turn each one into confession and repentance as the Spirit convicts.

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!" (Psalm 51:1-2)

What sin should you confess based on your passage?

Are there any sins you need to confess to others?

4. **Thanksgiving:** expressing gratitude for God's works and gifts

Now work back through your passage and look for things to thank God for. What has he done for you that fills your heart with gratitude?

"I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." (Psalm 9:1)

What should you thank God for based on this passage?

5. **Supplication:** asking God to meet your needs

God is generous in his gifts and delights in meeting your needs. Don't be ashamed to ask him for his rich blessing on your life.

"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." (Hebrew 4:16)

What does your passage remind you to ask God for?

What should you ask for yourself based on your passage?

6. **Consecration:** committing to obeying God's will

Respond to God's word by affirming your desire to obey it, asking for him to help you fulfill his will.

Read back through your passage looking for the things God wants you to do.

"Your will be done." (Matthew 26:39)

What should you commit to doing based on your passage?

7. **Intercession:** asking God to meet the needs of others

Ask for God's blessing on the lives of your family, friends, church family, coworkers, neighbors, nation and its leader (1 Timothy 2:2), and anyone else God brings to mind—even those who persecute or mistreat you (Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:28; 23:34).

Record your prayer for God's help: