



TEACH US TO PRAY

**Revolutionize Your Prayer Life,
Change Your World**

ED CRENSHAW

Teach Us to Pray:

Revolutionize Your Prayer Life, Change Your World

INTRODUCTION

Jesus' priorities and patterns for your prayer life are Jesus' priorities and patterns for your life in general.

When I was about twelve years old, an acquaintance my age came riding through our neighborhood. No, he wasn't riding on a minibike, like several of us kids who lived nearby did. He was riding a horse! That was, in many ways, even cooler than a minibike. Because I lived in a housing development with a lot of space, we had a nearby field. So my friend invited me and a few other gawkers to go to the field where he offered to let us ride his horse. Wow!

Contrary to what some people here in Pennsylvania think, not everyone who grows up down South grows up in the country. I had never milked a cow, and I don't think I'd ever ridden a horse. I had no clue what to do.

When I got on, the horse just took off running! Not only that, but apparently the horse had expanded its lungs when my friend was tightening the saddle on. That means that as the horse was running, totally out of my control, the saddle was slipping sideways. So I did what came naturally—and before I fell off, I just jumped. Then it was my friend's problem to catch his out-of-control horse with a saddle hanging sideways from it.

I have a feeling I would have enjoyed that awesome experience a little more if I had known what I was doing. I also have a feeling that you will enjoy the awesome experience of prayer—of communicating with Almighty God—if you know what you’re doing.

I think for many Christians, prayer is something we’re a little familiar with, but it’s like an out-of-control experience for us. We don’t necessarily enjoy it. We don’t always know what we’re doing. We don’t usually feel competent. Even some of the most spiritual believers we meet feel very unsatisfied with their prayer lives.

What did the disciples see that made them want to learn to pray? What gave them the “want to,” the will that made them seek a way? They saw being lived out before them the greatest human life ever. And it was evident to them that prayer was a part of that. Luke’s description of Jesus’ prayer life shows he intends you to grasp the power of prayer.

When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, it was because the disciples recognized the value of prayer. It was valuable for Jesus, the Son of God. It is valuable for us. We don’t take it for granted that we can talk with the God of the universe.

Pastor Ed

Ed Crenshaw

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book will guide you through the next four weeks of prayer. I want to encourage you to set aside five days each week to go through these devotions. After you complete the devotional reading, head on over to getvictory.net/pray and pray with the correlated audio recording for the day's prayer. I hope this season you find new purpose and power in your prayer life as you pray through Jesus' model.

Our Model

One thing that God does in preparation for revival is to begin to stir up spiritual hunger and to lead people to prayer. I believe it is helpful to have a model that can guide your prayer as you learn. I use the PRAY model which is derived from the Lord's Prayer.

The acronym PRAY stands for:

P Press into God

R Resist the Status Quo

A Ask for What You Need

Y Yield to God's Grace

TEACH US TO PRAY

**PRESS
INTO
GOD**



DAY 1

PRESS INTO GOD

SCRIPTURE: Luke 11:1-4

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

He said to them, "When you pray, say:

'Father,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

for we also forgive everyone who sins

against us.

And lead us not into temptation."

REFLECT

As we come before our King with honor, we come before him as his children. He's your Father, so you need confidence to come before God. We have respect, but also confidence that he loves us.

Jesus' teaching begins with the instructions simply to address God as "Father." The Jews in Jesus' day frequently referred to Abraham as father, but to address God as Father was radical. Today, we probably take it for granted. Why is

it truly radical to approach God as our Father? It suggests intimacy. It suggests something about who we are that may seem presumptuous.

What does it say about God's identity? Father communicates God is good, God is love. He's a loving, approachable God who is also in a position of authority in our lives. God is awesome in his holiness, but he is still approachable as Father.

What does it say about our identity? We can relate to God as sons and daughters. My relationship with God as my Father should trump everything else. I am valuable.

What does it say about how we relate with God? God loves us and is committed to our well-being. We can have confidence in approaching God. We can have an expectation of good gifts from our Father.

DAY 2

PRESS INTO GOD

SCRIPTURE: Luke 11:2

*He said to them, "When you pray, say:
'Father,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come.'"*

REFLECT

The first petition, or request, of the Lord's Prayer is "Hallowed be your name." Why would this be the first petition? What does it mean for God's name to be hallowed? Hallowed means that God is great. It is a recognition that though God is Father, he is a holy God. It says something about the identity of God that must go along with his identity as a loving Father. It also means that our first priority in prayer is to acknowledge both God's Fatherhood and God's holiness. Our priority is not only to hallow God's name as individuals, but to see God's name hallowed throughout his creation. This petition immediately takes us from a very personal, potentially individualistic approach to God as Father, to a broad, universal acknowledgement of God's position in creation. As a Father, he is intimate with us individually; as a holy God, he is entirely "other," transcendent. "Holy" is God's primary identity beyond Father.

What does this petition imply with regard to the attitude of our heart in approaching God? We come before God with worship, awe, wonder, and respect. We have a strong desire to see God glorified, even above getting answers to our personal prayers. We have a strong desire for our lives to come into alignment with God's holiness. We desire for our lives to bring glory to God as the world we influence acknowledges God's holiness.

What does this petition mean with regard to our priorities in prayer? Our top priority is that God be honored, worshiped, and adored.

If we really want God's name to be hallowed, what does that say about our lifestyle and our life priorities?

DAY 3

PRESS INTO GOD

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 10:4-10, 19-22

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—I have come to do your will, my God.'" First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

REFLECT

What is the basis for our boldly pressing into the presence of God? We can approach a holy God because “we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all” (v. 10). “We have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus” (v. 19). Faith and the assurance faith brings have a role in this, too (v. 22). Our guilty conscience doesn’t keep us back any longer. Baptism is a sign of this boldness before God.

In the Bible, many people were fearful of God’s presence. Why would they be fearful? Because God is so holy and their consciences weren’t cleansed, even though sacrifices had been made for them. If a sacrifice has to be repeated over and over, how do you know that the benefits still pertain?

What might be some false foundations for confidence before a holy God? How can we make sure our boldness remains on a firm foundation? The idea of the universal fatherhood of God is misguided. It sees us as able to approach God simply based on our value—which is undeniable—and ignores our need for cleansing. Both truths are important for a proper approach to God. God does not ignore our sin; he forgives our sin. Another false foundation is our own works of righteousness, or the idea that we’re better than someone else.

Why is the way Jesus has made for us to approach the Father called “a new and living way?” (v. 20) **NEW**: It is a new covenant (Hebrews is contrasting the old and the new covenants to say the new is better). It is continually new in that it is fresh for every one of us! **LIVING**: Animals died. Jesus died. But Jesus lives. Jesus’ resurrection means that his way is not just a way of death, but a living way. We also get to live because of it. We get abundant life.

DAY 4

PRESS INTO GOD

SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 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.

REFLECT

The writer of Hebrews encourages us to approach God’s throne with confidence or boldness. He gives a different reason here than in chapter 10. What is the confidence based on? We have a high priest who is able to empathize with our weaknesses. God understands us, even though he himself did not succumb to temptation, he still understands and empathizes with us. It’s wonderful that even though he didn’t succumb, he still offers grace and mercy because he understands.

Why is Jesus able to empathize with our weaknesses?
What weaknesses is he talking about here? Jesus knows

the temptation to deviate from the Father's plan. We don't know to what degree Jesus was tempted by the things that tempt us, but he was certainly tempted in the 40 days in the wilderness and in the Garden of Gethsemane. He might have faced temptations to call on the angels to rescue him from the cross (just as the wilderness temptations were meant to be shortcuts to the Kingdom).

What can we expect to find in the presence of God? Can we expect these things in spite of our weaknesses? Why or why not? We will find grace and mercy to help us in our time of need. Grace and mercy cover over our weaknesses; they are offered in spite of our weaknesses because of the empathy of Jesus.

DAY 5

PRESS INTO GOD

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

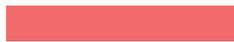
REFLECT

What do these verses tell us about how we approach the presence of God? We approach God with joy. We want the whole earth to worship God. We have confidence because we are the sheep of his pasture (much like the confidence we have that he is our Father and we are his children). We enter with thanksgiving and praise. We recognize his goodness and love, his faithfulness that extends from past generations to our own, from our own generation to our children and beyond.

In what way might these verses, especially verses 4 and 5, relate to a desire to see God's name be hallowed? "Hallowed be your name" is an expression of praise. It's a part of praising his name.

TEACH US TO PRAY

**RESIST
THE
STATUS
QUO**



DAY 1

RESIST THE STATUS QUO

SCRIPTURE: Luke 17:20-21

Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is in your midst."

REFLECT

God's agenda goes first, before our own. God's agenda is revolutionary. A lot of Christians want to start with repentance for revival. Maybe we should start with God's Kingdom first. Be radical. Repentance is important, but it comes later (forgive us our trespasses). A lot of Christians view prayer as bringing a bulleted request list to God. We will be asking for what we need—a sign of dependence on God. But we don't start there. We have pressed into the presence of God. We avoid experimentalism by going on from there, as precious and as high-priority as that is.

If God's Kingdom is first, what is the Kingdom of God? In Luke 17:20-21, we see that the Kingdom of God is not something that can be observed. It is not something here or there, but rather the Kingdom of God is in our midst.

The status quo for a fallen world is the devil's kingdom, the kingdom of darkness. God's Kingdom displaces the darkness, casts out the demons, and brings release and freedom. As it says in John 10:10, the kingdom of darkness came to kill, steal, and destroy, but God's Kingdom brings abundant life.

We resist the status quo when we pray God's agenda first and we seek for God's Kingdom to displace the fallen world.

DAY 2

RESIST THE STATUS QUO

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 103:19

The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

REFLECT

God's ultimate Lordship over all creation and all history is without question. The reality of human history, however, is one of resistance to God's Lordship. We see evidence of this rebellion all around us—so much so that it really is the status quo of this fallen world. We must resist the status quo.

We resist the status quo when we boldly pray for and live out the coming of God's Kingdom in power. But what is the Kingdom of God? Where is the Kingdom of God?

The Kingdom of God was probably Jesus' favorite topic. But God's Kingdom is not a place. It's not geographical. It is characterized by the rule of the King of kings. Where God is King, there is the Kingdom of God. You might even say that, in some ways, the Kingdom of God is a person. The Kingdom of God is about the presence and rule of God.

DAY 3

RESIST THE STATUS QUO

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:10

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ' ' your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'"

REFLECT

I was once preaching through the Lord's Prayer. Knowing that I would be preaching on the Kingdom of God, our worship leader selected a list of songs all having to do with heaven. The Kingdom of God is not just about heaven; it is about a radical upset of the status quo in the here and now! So much of what we put off until heaven, God wants to accomplish here on earth.

There is a now-and-not-yet aspect of God's Kingdom to be held in tension. That is, the Kingdom is here in many ways, but it is not yet fully here. It is moving forward, though. Prayer and our way of life must be centered on the advancement of God's Kingdom and the full accomplishment of God's will on earth as in heaven.

A bold command. Let's take an authoritative view of this. We have pressed into the presence of God with "shameless

audacity." Now is not the time to be shy. Hebrews 4:16 says that we come boldly before the throne of grace. We are permitted and expected to come boldly before God.

DAY 4

RESIST THE STATUS QUO

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 12:25-28

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you."

REFLECT

Prayer makes a difference. You make a difference. It is not just about getting something from God. We are about seeing God's Kingdom replace every manifestation of the kingdom of darkness: racism, injustice, oppression, addictions, spiritual bondage, sickness, and disease. One of the early wins of the civil rights movement took place on my first birthday. Four students simply took their places at a segregated lunch counter. We are certainly called to act; we must act: but we need to take our place at God's lunch counter, God's throne, first. Action without prayer will be futile in bringing about God's Kingdom, God's justice.

The status quo is the work of the devil. Jesus came that we might have abundant life! The Bible calls the devil the "god of this world." Jesus came to destroy the work of the devil.

According to today's Scripture, what is the evidence that the Kingdom of God is near? Do people still need this kind of deliverance in our world today? If so, how do we implement this aspect of God's Kingdom and the reversal of the status quo?

DAY 5

RESIST THE STATUS QUO

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 4:20

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

REFLECT

We were in England the week of the Brexit vote in Parliament, January 2019, and we were there for prayer at Holy Trinity Brompton. It was interesting to hear bold prayer for the government, not only in a prayer meeting, but in the service.

How did they pray? They prefaced it by saying, "It's not our job to decide how they should vote. It's our job to pray for them." This might be unique to a British approach to democracy. When so much of what divides us in the US is political, perhaps we should consider making it our job just to pray.

We make our will known through elections. Then we pray! Maybe between elections we should spend more time praying and less time spouting our opinions on social media.

Ultimately, all kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of our God.

TEACH US TO PRAY

**ASK FOR
WHAT
YOU
NEED**



DAY 1

ASK FOR WHAT YOU NEED

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:11-13

"Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

REFLECT

We are not more spiritual by refusing to ask for our own needs to be met! If you have a need, ask, especially since you have already prioritized honoring God and establishing his kingdom.

What do you need right now? "There is no problem that you face that cannot be resolved by a greater revelation of God" (Eugene Greco). Having prioritized glorifying God, experiencing God's presence, and putting his will before ours, we can expect God to provide for us. Knowing that he is aware of our needs doesn't mean that we shouldn't ask. We definitely should.

We have pressed into the presence of God through worshiping him, praising him, focusing our hearts' desires onto him. We have prioritized God's agenda over our own. We have bent our wills to God's will, seeking first God's Kingdom and righteousness.

That does not mean, however, that our own needs are unimportant to God. The fact that God's Kingdom agenda is much bigger than ours and that God has a whole universe to run, is not an indication that God is too busy for our stuff. God invites us to present our needs, both material and spiritual, to him.

DAY 2

ASK FOR WHAT YOU NEED

SCRIPTURE: Luke 11:3-4

"Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation."

REFLECT

Until this point in the Lord's Prayer, nothing has been said about our own needs. Why do you think that is? Do you think most people approach prayer by putting God's agenda first? Why or why not? Do you think it matters one way or the other?

Some might say that if you're the kind of person who puts God first, then why wouldn't he want to meet your needs? What do you think about that perspective? How might it be true? What limitations might that perspective have?

The first requests of the Lord's Prayer that have to do with us are for daily bread and forgiveness. Daily bread addresses physical needs. This includes material well-being such as healing for your body, job help, and provision. Forgiveness addresses spiritual needs like emotional and spiritual wholeness. How do these requests fit in with each other? Do you tend to focus on one over the other?

DAY 3

ASK FOR WHAT YOU NEED

SCRIPTURE: Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

REFLECT

Sometimes it can seem that we are being unspiritual when we ask God to meet our needs. When we have that kind of thinking, we might consider it to be spiritually desirable only to pray for the needs of others. Do you feel less “spiritual” when you ask for your own needs to be met? Are you more hesitant to present your own needs to God? If so, why do you think that is?

If it worries you, give it to God. Don't consider something too small for God, then hang onto it and let it prevent you from enjoying your relationship with God. It truly is an act of humility to ask for prayer. It is an act of dependence. Based on this passage, what is the alternative to presenting your requests to God? What does this tell you about the types of requests God wants you to present to him?

In Philippians 4:19, Paul also promises that “My God will meet all your needs.” The context of that promise is Paul’s expression of thanks for the Philippians’ financial partnership with him for the support of his ministry. When we put God’s Kingdom first, we don’t have to worry about our material needs, and we don’t have to be reluctant to ask God to meet those needs.

DAY 4

ASK FOR WHAT YOU NEED

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

REFLECT

In verse 1, David declares, "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing." What does it mean to you to say that the Lord is your shepherd? What does this say about God's nature? What does this say about your relationship with God as one of his sheep?

David says, "I lack nothing." Do you think David was being literal here, or was he being poetic? How do you personally relate to this statement? As you read the whole psalm, do

you think David had material things in mind when he said he lacked nothing? Did he have more than material things in mind? If so, then what?

What might it mean when David says that God prepares a table before him in the presence of his enemies? What does David mean when he says his cup is running over? We might also ask, in reference to the Lord's Prayer, if "daily bread" represents more than material needs.

DAY 5

ASK FOR WHAT YOU NEED

SCRIPTURE: 1 Chronicles 4:9-10

Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain." Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request.

REFLECT

These relatively obscure verses about a little-known character in the Bible were turned into a bestselling book, with 9 million copies sold, *The Prayer of Jabez*. What were the four things that Jabez prayed for? How should these four requests shape our prayer lives?

Some critics of the book asserted that it encouraged selfish prayer. Others took note that evangelicals finally learned it was OK to pray for yourself. You can pray for blessings for yourself! How would we keep prayer based on Jabez's model from becoming selfish?

Why would God want to answer a prayer like Jabez's? Give at least three reasons based on the nature of God or based on the character of Jabez.

TEACH US TO PRAY

**YIELD
TO GOD'S
GRACE**



DAY 1

YIELD TO GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:9-13

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'"

REFLECT

While we are bold in our approach to God as we come into his presence, we are not flippant about our sins.

Why do you think we aren't instructed by Jesus in the Lord's Prayer to get our sins out of the way first? Why do you think Jesus would have us present our needs to him even before asking forgiveness?

The scary thing about coming boldly before the God of the universe: we are weak, flawed, wrong, badly motivated, not as loving as we should be, and none of that is hidden from God. That's why I say that prayer is not for wimps or control freaks. You have to be bold before God, but you can't tame him. We yield to his grace. We're bold and yielding at the same time.

DAY 2

YIELD TO GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE: James 5:15-16

And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

REFLECT

Looking again at the passage on healing in the book of James, we see confession is a part of God's plan for our healing.

James tells us to confess our sins to one another. If we can confess directly to God and ask his forgiveness, why should we confess to another person? What would be the benefits? What are some challenges to confessing to people? Do you have anyone besides God to confess your sins? This passage suggests that the kind of loving environment that fosters openness and vulnerability with each other is the kind of environment in which we can expect miracles of healing. God gives us as his followers a role in helping each other receive both forgiveness and healing.

Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. What does this teach us about confession of sin, if anything? What does this passage suggest about the benefits of asking for forgiveness? Is asking for forgiveness enough?

DAY 3

YIELD TO GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 3:7-10

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.

REFLECT

We know that we are not saved based on how good we are. If that's the case, why is John so adamant that we not continue sinning? Do you feel John is being harsh?

In my earlier years I would read 1 John 3:9, "No one who is born of God will continue to sin," and become a little frightened because I knew I still had sin in my life. Later in

my walk with Christ, I began to see that phrase as a promise that God would deliver me from the power of sin. How do you see that phrase? Is it a threat? Is it a promise? Is it some of both? Give the reasons for your answers.

John will not continue sinning! We do spiritual warfare as a matter of prayer. We also do this as a matter of lifestyle, as we discussed with kingdom priorities and power. We desire to be living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God. The ability to confess our sins is not an excuse for maintaining a sinful way of life as a follower of Jesus. We are called to a holy lifestyle.

DAY 4

YIELD TO GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 5:8-10

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

REFLECT

The Bible says that our struggle is not with flesh and blood. The evil one is prowling around, looking to devour. We resist temptation, actively choosing a holy lifestyle. However, we ask God to deliver us from the evil one. This delivering work is a work of God's grace, too. We stand in dependence on God's strength and not our own.

James 4:7 also states that we need to humble ourselves and resist temptation. When we do that, the devil flees. We are both asking God to deliver us from the evil one, the devil, and we are actively resisting the devil. However, God focuses on helping us resist temptation by grace instead

of focusing on our sin and weakness. God is providing us protection and empowerment through his strength not our own. Through his armor, not ours. How can you depend on God to deliver you through his grace, regardless of what the devil throws against you?

DAY 5

YIELD TO GOD'S GRACE

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name; vindicate me by your might. Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth. Arrogant foes are attacking me; ruthless people are trying to kill me—people without regard for God. Surely God is my help; the Lord is the one who sustains me. Let evil recoil on those who slander me; in your faithfulness destroy them. I will sacrifice a freewill offering to you; I will praise your name, Lord, for it is good. You have delivered me from all my troubles, and my eyes have looked in triumph on my foes.

REFLECT

Praise God for the victory!

Remember as you read this psalm that your struggle is not with flesh and blood! Meditate on this and thank God for the victory that is yours. Give God the praise and glory! Let God know how great he is.

What is a recent victory that you have experienced?

Resource

PRAY Template:

P Press into God

R Resist the Status Quo

A Ask for What You Need

Y Yield to God's Grace

PRESS into God:

- Embrace him as our Father
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise
- Thank him for the blood of Jesus that gives us bold access
- Pray for God to be glorified in all the earth, his name be hallowed
- Express desire for him (Psalms 27 and 42)

RESIST the status quo:

- Declare the kingdom of God over these areas:
 - My own life
 - My family
 - My church
 - My world
 - The world: nation, leaders, etc.
- Enable your servants, laborers for harvest, salvation of souls
- Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders (Acts 4)
- Displacement of the kingdom of darkness
- Revival/Awakening

ASK for what I need:

- What I need for today:
 - materially
 - spiritually
 - relationally
 - friends, favor, finances
- Bless me and expand my territory
- Give God all my anxiety, stress, worries
- Trust God, don't lean on my own understanding

YIELD to God's grace:

- Confess and repent of my sins
- Release anyone who has offended me (release them)
- Let go of or overlook all offenses (release myself)
- Expect God not to lead me into temptation, but beside still waters
- Receive grace for any testing or temptation that comes my way
- Put on the armor of God, the nature of Christ
- Resist the devil and expect him to flee
- Praise God for the victory



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