

PRAYER

The following is a prayer that I prayed everyday when my church was participating in a twenty-one day Daniel fast. I found the prayer in a study manual from a book by John Eldredge called "Wild at Heart". I had been through the course several years ago and remembered this prayer. It is a powerful prayer and can be used by anyone that is praying for their family. I pray that it will help you as it did me.

God Bless You!

Paul Webb

My dear Lord Jesus, I come to you now to be restored in you—to renew my place in you, my allegiance to you, and to receive from you all the grace and mercy I so desperately need this day. I honor you as my sovereign Lord, and I surrender every aspect of my life totally and completely to you. I give you my body as a living sacrifice; I give you my soul and my spirit as well. I cover myself with your blood—my spirit, my soul and my body. And I ask your Holy Spirit to restore my union with you, seal me in you, and guide me in this time of prayer. In all that I now pray, I include (my wife and my children by name). Acting as their head, I bring them under my authority and covering, and I come under your authority and covering. Holy Spirit, apply to them all that I now pray on their behalf.

Dear God, holy and blessed Trinity, you alone are worthy of all my worship, my heart's devotion, all my praise and all my trust and all the glory of my life. I worship you, bow to you, and give myself over to you in my heart's search for life. You alone are Life, and you have become my life. I renounce all other gods, all idols, and I give you the place in my heart and in my life that you truly deserve. I confess here and now that it is all about you God, and not about me. You are the Hero of this story, and I belong to you. Forgive me, God for my every sin. Search me and know me and reveal to me any aspect of my life that is not pleasing to you. And grant me the grace of a deep and true repentance.

Heavenly Father, thank you for loving me and choosing me before you made the world. You are my true Father—my Creator, my Redeemer, my Sustainer, and the true end of all things, including my life. I love you, I trust you, and I worship you.

Thank you for proving your love for me by sending your only Son, Jesus to be my substitute and representative.

I receive him, and all his life and all his work, which you ordained for me. Thank you for including me in Christ, for forgiving my sins, for granting me his righteousness, for making me complete in him. Thank you for making me alive with Christ, raising me with him, seating me with him at your right hand, granting me his authority and anointing me with your Holy Spirit, I receive it all with thanks and give it total claim to my life.

Jesus, thank you for coming for me, for ransoming me with your own life. I honor you as my Lord, I love you, worship you, trust you. I sincerely receive you as my redemption, and I receive all the work and triumph of your crucifixion, whereby I am cleansed from all my sin through your shed blood, my old nature is removed, my heart is circumcised unto God. I take my place in your cross and death, whereby I have died with you to sin, to the flesh, to the world and to the evil one. I am crucified with Christ. I take up my cross and crucify my flesh with all its pride, unbelief, and idolatry. I put off the old man. I put the cross of Christ between me and all people, all spirits, all things. Holy Spirit, apply to me (my wife and my children) the fullness of the work of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ for me. I receive it with thanks and give it total claim to my life.

Jesus, I also sincerely receive you as my new life, my holiness and sanctification, and I receive all the work and triumph of your resurrection, whereby I have been raised with you to a new life, to walk in newness of life, dead to sin and alive to God. I am crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me.

I take my place in your resurrection, putting on the new man in all holiness and humility, in all righteousness and purity and truth. Christ is now my life, the One who strengthens me. Holy Spirit, apply to me (my wife and my children) the fullness of the resurrection of Jesus Christ for me. I receive it with thanks and give it total claim to my life.

Jesus, I sincerely receive you as my everlasting deliverance from and victory over Satan, and I receive all the work and triumph of your ascension, whereby I have been raised with you to the right hand of the Father, and established with you in all authority. I take my place in your ascension, whereby I am given fullness in you, in your power, authority, and dominion over every ruler, power, authority, and spiritual force of wickedness. I claim the cross and blood of Jesus Christ against Satan, against his kingdom, and against all his emissaries and all their work against me and my domain. Satan is defeated, the prince of this world is cast down, the rulers and authorities are disarmed. Greater is he who is in me than he who is in the world. Christ has given me authority to overcome all the power of the evil one and I claim that authority now over and against every enemy. Holy Spirit, apply to me (my wife and my children) the fullness of the work of the ascension of Jesus Christ for me. I receive it with thanks and give it total claim to my life.

Holy Spirit, I sincerely receive you as my Counselor, my Comforter, my strength and my guide. Thank you for sealing me in Christ. I ask you to lead me into all truth, to anoint me for all my life and walk, and calling, and to lead me deeper into Jesus today. Apply to me blessed Holy Spirit, all the works and all the gifts in Pentecost. I fully open my life to you in every dimension and aspect, choosing to be filled with you, to walk in step with you in all things. Fill me fresh, blessed Holy Spirit. I receive you with thanks and give you total claim to my life (and my wife and my children).

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for granting to me all spiritual blessings in the heavens, in Christ Jesus. I receive those blessings into my life today, and I ask the Holy Spirit to bring all those blessings into my life this day. Thank you for the blood of Jesus. Wash me with his blood from every sin and stain and evil device. Equip me with your armor—the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel, the helmet of salvation. I take up the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit, the word of God, and I wield these weapons against the evil one in the power of God. I choose to pray at all times in the Spirit.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your angels. I summon them in the authority of Jesus Christ and release them to war for me and my household. Thank you for the intercessors, I ask you to send forth your Spirit and raise them up, arouse them, unite them, establish and direct them, raising up the full canopy of prayer and intercession for me. I call forth the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ this day throughout my home, my family and my life.

All this I pray in the name of Jesus Christ with all glory and honor and thanks to him.
Amen!

This prayer was taken from the Wild at Heart Field Manual by John Eldredge. He adapted it from a prayer found in Ed Murphy's The Spiritual Handbook.

This is a great daily prayer for you and your family. It takes about ten minutes to read through, if you think you don't have time for that then get up earlier. Your family deserves it.

In January of this year my church participated in a 21 day Daniel fast (no meats, sweet breads, or hard drinks ie. Coffee, soda, etc.). We ate a lot of soup and salads and drank a lot of water.

After the first few days, I was running out of things to pray about, and I remembered the above prayer form the Wild at Heart study course. I had been through this course in 2002, and I recommend it if you can find a group that is having it.

Anyway I started praying this prayer every morning and God started opening my eyes to see more than just the words on the paper.

This prayer covers the entire gospel message.

Salvation

Praise and Worship

Crucifixion

Resurrection

Ascension

The Holy Spirit

The Blessings

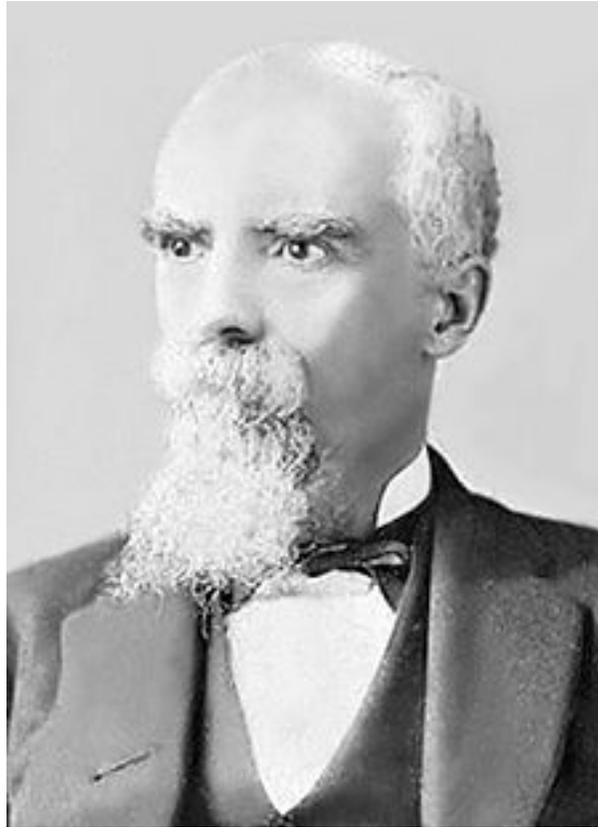
I pray that as you read through the prayer the Holy Spirit will reveal things to you that will cause you to start looking up words and scriptures.

Now I would like to introduce you to another great man of Prayer.

E. M. Bounds—Below is a little about him and the books he wrote on Prayer.

His books on prayer have inspired many through the years to become great prayer warriors. Following is a brief biography then more on his eight books of prayer.

E. M. BOUNDS



Bounds was born in Shelby County, rural Missouri to Thomas J. and Hatty Bounds. His father, Thomas J. Bounds, was instrumental in organizing Shelby County, Missouri, he was an original landholder in the county seat, Shelbyville, and he was a driving force in the building of the First Methodist Church in 1840. Because his father served as county clerk, the Bounds' home was used for court sessions. When Edward was fourteen years old, his father contracted tuberculosis and died.

Shortly after his father's death in 1849, Edward, his eldest brother (Charles), and several other relatives joined a wagon train and traveled to Mesquite Canyon in California in hopes of making a fortune in gold mining. After four unsuccessful years, they returned to Missouri and Edward studied law in Hannibal, Missouri.

He became the state's youngest practicing lawyer at age nineteen. Although apprenticed as an attorney, Bounds felt called to Christian ministry in his early twenties during the Third Great Awakening. Following a brush arbor revival meeting led by Evangelist Smith Thomas, he closed his law office and moved to Palmyra, Missouri to enroll in the Centenary Seminary. Two years later, in 1859 at the age of 24, he was ordained by his denomination and was named pastor of the nearby Monticello, Missouri Methodist Church.

Civil War Chaplain

E.M. Bounds did not support slavery. But, because he was a pastor at a congregation in the recently formed Methodist Episcopal Church South, his name was included in a list of 250 names who were to take an oath of allegiance and post a \$500 bond.

Edward saw no reason for a U.S. Citizen to take such an oath, he was morally opposed to the Union raising funds in this way, and he didn't have the \$500. Bounds and the others on the list were arrested in 1861 by Union troops, and Bounds was charged as a Confederate sympathizer. He was held with other non-combatants in a Federal prison in St. Louis for a year and a half. He was then transferred to Memphis and released in a prisoner exchanged between the Union and the Confederacy.

He became a chaplain in the Confederate States Army (3rd Missouri Infantry CSA)

During the First Battle of Franklin, Bounds suffered a severe forehead injury from a Union saber, and he was taken prisoner.

On June 28, 1865, Bounds was among Confederate prisoners who were released upon the taking of an oath of loyalty to the United States.

Pastor and Author

Upon his release as a prisoner of the Union Army, he felt compelled to return to war-torn Franklin and help rebuild it spiritually, and he became the pastor of the Franklin Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His primary method was to establish weekly prayer sessions that sometimes lasted several hours. Bounds was regionally celebrated for leading spiritual revival in Franklin and eventually began an itinerant preaching ministry throughout the country.

After serving several important churches in St. Louis and other places, south, he became Editor of the St. Louis Christian Advocate for eight years, and later Associate Editor of The Nashville Christian Advocate for four years. The trial of his faith came to him while in Nashville, and he quietly retired to his home without asking even a pension. His principal work in Washington, Georgia (his home) was rising at 4 am and praying until 7 am. He filled a few engagements as an evangelist during the eighteen years of his lifework. While on speaking engagements, he would not neglect his early morning time in prayer, and cared nothing for the protests of the other occupants of his room at being

awakened so early. No man could have made more melting appeals for lost souls and backslidden ministers than did Bounds. Tears ran down his face as he pleaded for us all in that room.

According to people who were constantly with him, in prayer and preaching, for eight years "Not a foolish word did we ever hear him utter. He was one of the most intense eagles of God that ever penetrated the spiritual ether. He could not brook delay in rising, or being late for dinner. He would go with me to street meetings often in Brooklyn and listen to the preaching, and sing with us those beautiful songs of Wesley and Watts. He often reprimanded me for asking the unconverted to sing of Heaven. Said he: 'They have no heart to sing, they do not know God, and God does not hear them. Quit asking sinners to sing the songs of Zion and the Lamb.'"

Marriage and children

Bounds' first marriage was to Emma (Emmie) Elizabeth Barnett from Washington, Georgia on September 19, 1876. They had two daughters, Celeste and Corneille, and a son, Edward. Emmie died on February 18, 1886. Twenty months later, Edward married Emmie's cousin, Harriet (Hattie) Elizabeth Barnett in 1887. To them were born three sons (Samuel, Charles, and Osborne), and three daughters (Elizabeth, Mary, and Emmie). His son Edward, by his first wife, died at the age of six, and his son Charles, by his second wife, died eight days after his first birthday.

Death

E.M. Bounds died on August 24, 1913 in Washington, Georgia. The funeral was held on the following day.

E.M. Bounds wrote eight books on prayer, below is a short synopsis of them.



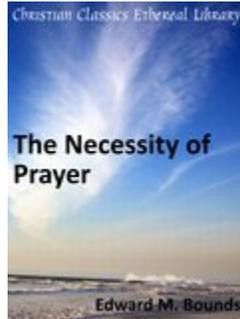
[The Essentials Of Prayer](#)

It takes the whole man to pray till cruel tyrants and unjust rulers are changed in their natures and lives, as well as in their governing qualities, or till they cease to rule. It requires the entire man in praying till high and proud and unspiritual ecclesiastics become gentle, lowly and religious, till godliness and gravity bear rule in Church and in State, in home and in business, in public as well as in private life.....



[Power Through Prayer](#)

In twenty provocative and inspiring chapters, each prefaced with quotations from spiritual giants, Edward M. Bounds stresses the imperative of vital prayer in the life of a pastor. He says, ". . . every preacher who does not make prayer a mighty factor in his own life and ministry is weak as a factor in God's work and is powerless to project God's cause in this world."



[The Necessity of Prayer](#)

IN any study of the principles, and procedure of prayer, of its activities and enterprises, first place, must, of necessity, be given to faith. Faith is the initial quality in the heart of any man who essays to talk to the Unseen. He must, out of sheer helplessness, stretch forth hands of faith. He must believe, where he cannot prove. In the ultimate issue, prayer is simply faith, claiming its natural yet marvellous prerogatives -- faith taking possession of its illimitable inheritance. True godliness is just as true, steady, and persevering in the realm of faith as it is in the province of prayer. Moreover: when faith ceases to pray, it ceases to live.



[Prayer and Praying Men](#)

The Holy Spirit will give to the praying saint the brightness of an immortal hope, the music of a deathless song, in His baptism and communion with the heart, He will give sweeter and more enlarged visions of heaven until the taste for other things will pall, and other visions will grow dim and distant. He will put notes of other worlds in human hearts until all earth's music is discord and songless.—
Rev. E. M. Bounds



[Purpose In Prayer](#)

Men are to pray--to pray for the advance of God's cause. Prayer puts God in full force in the world. To a prayerful man God is present in realised force; to a prayerful Church God is present in glorious power, and the Second Psalm is the Divine description of the establishment of God's cause through Jesus Christ.

All inferior dispensations have merged in the enthronement of Jesus Christ. God declares the enthronement of His Son. The nations are incensed with bitter hatred against His cause. God is described as laughing at their enfeebled hate. The Lord will laugh; The Lord will have them in derision. "Yet have I set My King upon My holy hill of Zion." The decree has passed immutable and eternal:



[The Possibilities of Prayer](#)

THE ministry of prayer has been the peculiar distinction of all of God's saints. This has been the secret of their power. The energy and the soul of their work has been the closet. The need of help outside of man being so great, man's natural inability to always judge kindly, justly, and truly, and to act the Golden Rule, so prayer is enjoined by Christ to enable man to act in all these things according to the Divine will. By prayer, the ability is secured to feel the law of love, to speak according to the law of love, and to do everything in harmony with the law of love.



[The Reality of Prayer](#)

Prayer, as taught by Jesus in its essential features, enters into all the relations of life. It sanctifies brotherliness. To the Jew, the altar was the symbol and place of prayer. The Jew devoted the altar to the worship of God. Jesus Christ takes the altar of prayer and devotes it to the worship of the brotherhood. How Christ purifies the altar and enlarges it! How He takes it out of the sphere of a mere performance, and makes its virtue to consist, not in the mere act of praying, but in the spirit which actuates us toward men. Our spirit toward folks is of the life of prayer.



[The Weapon of Prayer](#)

Prayer cannot be retired as a secondary force in this world. To do so is to retire God from the movement. It is to make God secondary. The prayer ministry is an all-engaging force. It must be so, to be a force at all. Prayer is the sense of God's need and the call for God's help to supply that need. The estimate and place of prayer is the estimate and place of God. To give prayer the secondary place is to make God secondary in life's affairs. To substitute other forces for prayer, retires God and materializes the whole movement.