

Prayer in The New Testament

Third Edition

Douglas D. Anderson

Prayer in the New Testament

Introduction

The purpose of this collection is to have a single resource of the scriptural references to prayer in the New Testament, that is, what God is telling us about prayer, together with the practices recorded in the books of the New Testament. The impetus for this document was Luther's discussion of prayer in the context of his exhortation concerning the Second Commandment in the *Large Catechism*. From the commandment not to take the Lord's name in vain, Luther deduces the requirement to pray.

This stirred me to want to learn more about prayer, and, accordingly, I searched the Bible for references to prayer in an attempt to find more pointed direction from God concerning prayer. There were ample sources, including Luke 18:1 where it was written: "Then Jesus told them a parable to show them they should always pray and not lose heart." Likewise, the apostle Paul frequently urges the readers of his epistles to pray, including this well-known citation from 1 Thessalonians 5:17: "pray without ceasing." (KJV) Likewise, there is this verse in Ephesians 6:18: "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit" (NET Bible)

These citations were selected on the basis of a search for the word "pray." This search in the NET Bible produced 734 citations (535 in the Old Testament and 199 in the New Testament). Note that the act of prayer may not necessarily include the word "pray" or one of its derivatives in the

text in which it is found, and that these results are accordingly limited.

After completing this phase of the research, I discovered a challenge: the translations themselves. Matthew 9:38 illustrates the problem.

The King James: "*Pray* ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

The NIV: "*Ask* the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

So, in many cases we see prayer in *asking* for, in *calling* for, in *come near to*, in *draw near to*, "in Him," and in the direct prayers of our Lord and his Apostles.

For this reason, additional research was conducted, consulting two concordances, a subject index, and *Nave's Topical Index* (Unabridged).

I have elected to omit some of the requests made of Jesus during his lifetime that bear the message "your faith has saved you."

The exceptions were where the teaching message goes beyond this message of faith. An example is the blind man who begs Jesus for sight in Mark 10 & Luke 18. Here, the message of "faith saves" is augmented by a teaching to be specific in our prayer requests. Another that is included is the request by the criminal crucified with Christ, who said: "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." And Jesus said to

Prayer in the New Testament

him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.” Here we see that not only that Christ answers prayers, but that He will do so immediately in some cases.

Due to copyright constraints, this text is from the NET Bible, www.bible.org. The NET Bible features extensive notes from the translators and editors, but because of their length (the length of the notes can sometimes exceed the length of the passage), they are not included in this document. However, those notes are a valuable addi-

tion to a fuller understanding of the translation, especially where the precise words of the translation are subject to interpretation.

Individual verses are not included for fear of taking them out of context. Instead, the fuller passage is reproduced in order to allow a more complete understanding.

In this third edition, I have reformatted the text to provide more space between the lines, so that the text will be more readable.

This volume was created for the personal, educational use of the editor and of his friends.

*Seek the Lord while he makes himself available;
call to him while he is nearby!
Isaiah 55:6*

*God is our strong refuge;
he is truly our helper in times of trouble.
Psalm 46:1*

*Take courage – I have conquered the world.
John 16:33*

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Prayer in the New Testament

Table of Contents

Introduction..... i

The Gospel of Matthew..... 1

 Matthew 5 – Love for Enemies..... 1

 Matthew 6 – Private Prayer..... 1

 Matthew 7 – Ask, Seek, Knock..... 1

 Matthew 8 – Cleansing a Leper..... 2

 Matthew 8 – Healing the Centurion’s Servant..... 2

 Matthew 9 – Workers for the Harvest..... 2

 Matthew 11 – Jesus’ Invitation..... 2

 Matthew 14 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand..... 3

 Matthew 14 – Walking on Water..... 3

 Matthew 15 – A Canaanite Woman’s Faith..... 3

 Matthew 15 – The Feeding of the Four Thousand..... 3

 Matthew 17 – The Disciples’ Failure to Heal..... 4

 Matthew 18 – From “Restoring Christian Relationships”..... 4

 Matthew 19 – Jesus and Little Children..... 4

 Matthew 20 – Two Blind Men Healed..... 4

 Matthew 21 – Cleansing the Temple..... 5

 Matthew 21 – The Withered Fig Tree..... 5

 Matthew 24 – The Abomination of Desolation..... 5

 Matthew 26 – The Lord’s Supper..... 5

 Matthew 26 – Gethsemane..... 6

 Matthew 27 – Jesus’ Death..... 6

The Gospel of Mark..... 6

 Mark 1 – Healings at Simon’s House..... 6

 Mark 1 – Praying and Preaching..... 7

 Mark 1 – Cleansing a Leper..... 7

 Mark 2 – Healing and Forgiving a Paralytic..... 7

 Mark 6 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand..... 7

 Mark 6 – Walking on Water..... 8

 Mark 7 – A Syrophenician Woman’s Faith..... 8

 Mark 8 – The Feeding of the Four Thousand..... 8

 Mark 9 – The Disciples’ Failure to Heal..... 9

Prayer in the New Testament

Mark 10 – Healing Blind Bartimaeus.....	9
Mark 11 – Cursing of the Fig Tree and Cleansing the Temple.....	10
Mark 11 – The Withered Fig Tree.....	10
Mark 12 – Warnings About Experts in the Law.....	10
Mark 13 – The Abomination of Desolation.....	10
Mark 14 – The Lord’s Supper.....	11
Mark 14 – Gethsemane.....	11
Mark 15 – Jesus’ Death.....	11
The Gospel of Luke.....	12
Luke 1 – Birth Announcement of John the Baptist.....	12
Luke 1 – Mary’s Hymn of Praise (The Magnificat).....	12
Luke 1 – Zechariah’s Praise and Prediction (The Benedictus).....	12
Luke 2 – Healing and Forgiving a Paralytic.....	13
Luke 2 – The Prophecy of Simeon (The Nunc Dimittis).....	13
Luke 2 – The Testimony of Anna.....	14
Luke 3 – The Baptism of Jesus.....	14
Luke 4 – From “Ministry in Capernaum”.....	14
Luke 5 – Healing a Leper.....	14
Luke 5 – The Superiority of the New.....	14
Luke 6 – Choosing the Twelve Apostles.....	15
Luke 6 – From “The Sermon On The Plain”.....	15
Luke 7 – Healing the Centurion’s Slave.....	15
Luke 9 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand.....	16
Luke 9 – Peter’s Confession.....	16
Luke 9 – The Transfiguration.....	16
Luke 10 – From “The Mission of the Seventy-Two”.....	17
Luke 11 – Instructions on Prayer.....	17
Luke 15 – From “The Parable of the Compassionate Father”.....	17
Luke 17 – The Grateful Leper.....	18
Luke 18 – Prayer and the Parable of the Persistent Widow.....	18
Luke 18 – The Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector.....	18
Luke 18 – Healing a Blind Man.....	18
Luke 19 – Cleansing the Temple.....	19
Luke 20 – Jesus Warns the Disciples against Pride.....	19
Luke 21 – Be Ready!.....	19
Luke 22 – The Lord’s Supper.....	19
Luke 22 – From “A Final Discourse”.....	19
Luke 22 – On the Mount of Olives.....	20
Luke 23 – The Crucifixion.....	20
The Gospel of John.....	21
John 4 – Conversation With a Samaritan Woman.....	21
John 4 – Healing the Royal Official’s Son.....	21
John 6 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand.....	22
John 9 – From “The Pharisees’ Reaction to the Healing”.....	22
John 11 – Lazarus Raised from the Dead.....	23

Prayer in the New Testament

John 12 – From “Seekers”.....	23
John 14 – From “Jesus’ Parting Words to His Disciples”.....	23
John 15 – The Vine and the Branches.....	23
John 16 – From “The Disciples’ Grief Will Turn To Joy”.....	24
John 17 – Jesus Prays for the Father to Glorify Him.....	24
John 17 – Jesus Prays for the Disciples.....	24
John 17 – Jesus Prays for Believers Everywhere.....	25
The Acts of the Apostles.....	25
Acts 1 – A Replacement for Judas is Chosen.....	25
Acts 2 – The Fellowship of the Early Believers.....	26
Acts 3 – Peter and John Heal a Lame Man at the Temple.....	26
Acts 4 – The Followers of Jesus Pray for Boldness.....	26
Acts 6 – The Appointment of the First Seven Deacons.....	27
Acts 7 & 8 – Stephen is Killed and Saul Begins to Persecute the Church.....	27
Acts 8 – Philip Preaches in Samaria.....	28
Acts 9 – The Conversion of Saul.....	28
Acts 9 – Peter Raises Dorcas.....	29
Acts 10 – Peter Visits Cornelius.....	29
Acts 11 – Peter Defends His Actions to the Jerusalem Church.....	30
Acts 12 – James is Killed and Peter Imprisoned.....	31
Acts 13 – The Church at Antioch Commissions Barnabas and Saul.....	31
Acts 14 – Paul and Barnabas Return to Antioch in Syria.....	32
Acts 15 – Paul and Barnabas Part Company.....	32
Acts 16 – Arrival at Philippi.....	32
Acts 16 – Paul and Silas Are Thrown Into Prison.....	32
Acts 20 – From “The Voyage To Miletus”.....	33
Acts 21 – Paul’s Journey to Jerusalem.....	33
Acts 22 – A recounting by Paul of his conversion during “Paul’s Defense”.....	34
Acts 26 – From “Paul Offers His Defense”.....	34
Acts 27 – From “Caught in a Violent Storm”.....	34
Acts 28 – From “Paul On Malta”.....	35
Romans.....	35
Romans 1 – Paul’s Desire to Visit Rome.....	35
Romans 8 – Prayer and the Holy Spirit.....	35
Romans 10 – Prayer for Salvation for Fellow Israelites.....	36
Romans 10 – From “Righteousness That Is By The Law”.....	36
Romans 12 – Conduct in Love.....	36
Romans 15 – From “Paul’s Intention of Visiting the Romans”.....	36
1st Corinthians.....	37
1st Corinthians 7 – Celibacy and Marriage.....	37
1st Corinthians 11 – Men’s and Women’s Head Coverings.....	37
1st Corinthians 14 – From “Prophecy and Tongues”.....	37
2nd Corinthians.....	38
2nd Corinthians 1 – Thanksgiving for God’s Comfort.....	38
2nd Corinthians 9 – From “Preparing the Gift”.....	38

Prayer in the New Testament

2nd Corinthians 11 – The Lord’s Supper.....	39
2nd Corinthians 12 – From “Paul’s Thorn in the Flesh”.....	39
2nd Corinthians 13 – Paul’s Third Visit to Corinth.....	39
Ephesians.....	40
Ephesians 1 – Prayer for Wisdom and Revelation.....	40
Ephesians 2 – From “New Life Corporately”.....	40
Ephesians 3 – From “Paul’s Relationship to the Divine Mystery”.....	41
Ephesians 3 – Prayer for Strengthened Love.....	41
Ephesians 6 – Exhortations for Spiritual Warfare.....	41
Philippians.....	42
Philippians 1 – Prayer for the Church.....	42
Philippians 1 – Ministry as a Prisoner.....	42
Philippians 4 – Christian Practices.....	43
Colossians.....	43
Colossians 1 – Paul’s Thanksgiving and Prayer for the Church.....	43
Colossians 1 – Paul’s Prayer for the Growth of the Church.....	43
Colossians 4 – Exhortation to Pray for the Success of Paul’s Mission.....	44
Colossians 4 – Personal Greetings and Instructions.....	44
1st Thessalonians.....	44
1st Thessalonians 1 – Thanksgiving for Response to the Gospel.....	45
1st Thessalonians 3 – From “Forced Absence from Thessalonica”.....	45
1st Thessalonians 5 – Final Instructions.....	45
1st Thessalonians 5 – Conclusion.....	45
2nd Thessalonians.....	46
2nd Thessalonians 1 – Encouragement in Persecution.....	46
2nd Thessalonians 2 – Call to Stand Firm.....	46
2nd Thessalonians 3 – Request for Prayer.....	46
1st Timothy.....	47
1st Timothy 2 – Prayer for All People.....	47
1st Timothy 4 – Timothy’s Ministry in the Later Times.....	47
1st Timothy 5 – Instructions about Specific Groups.....	47
2nd Timothy.....	48
2nd Timothy 1 – Thanksgiving and Charge to Timothy.....	48
2nd Timothy 1 – From “Thanksgiving and Charge to Timothy”.....	48
Philemon.....	48
Philemon – Thanks for Philemon’s Love and Faith.....	48
Philemon – From “Paul’s Request for Onesimus”.....	49
Hebrews.....	49
Hebrews 4 – Jesus Our Compassionate High Priest.....	49
Hebrews 5 – From “The Order of Melchizedek”.....	49
Hebrews 10 – Drawing Near to God in Enduring Faith.....	49
Hebrews 11 – People Commended for Their Faith.....	50
Hebrews 13 – From “Final Exhortations”.....	50
Hebrews 13 – Benediction.....	50
James.....	50

Prayer in the New Testament

James 1 – Joy in Trials.....	50
James 4 – Passions and Pride.....	51
James 5 – Prayer for the Sick.....	51
1st Peter.....	51
1st Peter 3 – Wives and Husbands.....	52
1st Peter 3 – Suffering for Doing Good.....	52
1st Peter 4 – Service, Suffering, and Judgment.....	52
2nd Peter.....	53
2nd Peter 1 – Believers’ Salvation and the Work of God.....	53
1st John.....	53
1st John 3 – From “God Is Love, So We Must Love One Another”.....	53
1st John 5 – Assurance of Eternal Life.....	53
3rd John.....	54
3rd John – Introduction and Thanksgiving.....	54
Jude.....	54
Jude – Exhortation to the Faithful.....	54
Revelation.....	55
Revelation 5 – From “The Opening of the Scroll”.....	55
Revelation 8 – The Seventh Seal.....	55
Revelation 22 – From “A Final Reminder”.....	55



Prayer in the New Testament

The Gospel of Matthew

Matthew 5 – Love for Enemies

5:43 You have heard that it was said, ‘*Love your neighbor*’ and ‘hate your enemy.’ **5:44** But I say to you, love your enemy and **pray** for those who persecute you, **5:45** so that you may be like your Father in heaven, since he causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. **5:46** For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Even the tax collectors do the same, don’t they? **5:47** And if you only greet your brothers, what more do you do? Even the Gentiles do the same, don’t they? **5:48** So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 6 – Private Prayer

6:5 Whenever you **pray**, do not be like the hypocrites, because they love to **pray** while standing in synagogues and on street corners so that people can see them. Truly I say to you, they have their reward. **6:6** But whenever you **pray**, go into your room, close the door, and **pray** to your Father in secret. And your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you. **6:7** When you **pray**, do not babble repetitiously like the Gentiles, because they think that by their many words they will be heard. **6:8** Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. **6:9** So **pray** this way:

Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored,

6:10 may your kingdom come, may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

6:11 Give us today our daily bread,

6:12 and forgive us our debts, as we ourselves have forgiven our debtors.

6:13 And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

6:14 “For if you forgive others their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **6:15** But if you do not forgive others, your Father will not forgive you your sins.

Matthew 7 – Ask, Seek, Knock

7:7 **Ask** and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you. **7:8** For everyone who **asks** receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. **7:9** Is there anyone among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? **7:10** Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? **7:11** If you then, although you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! **7:12** In everything, treat others as you would want them to treat you, for this fulfills the law and the prophets.

Prayer in the New Testament

Matthew 8 – Cleansing a Leper

8:1 After he came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him. **8:2** And a leper approached, and bowed low before him, saying, “**Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.**” **8:3** He stretched out his hand and touched him saying, “I am willing. Be clean!” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. **8:4** Then Jesus said to him, “See that you do not speak to anyone, but go, show yourself to a priest, and bring the offering that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

Also see Mark 1:40-43 and Luke 11:15-19.

Matthew 8 – Healing the Centurion’s Servant

8:5 When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him asking for help: **8:6** “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible anguish.” **8:7** Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.” **8:8** But the centurion replied, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. Instead, **just say the word and my servant will be healed.**” **8:9** For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to this one, ‘Go’ and he goes, and to another ‘Come’ and he comes, and to my slave ‘Do this’ and he does it.” **8:10** When Jesus heard this he was amazed and said to those who followed him, “I tell you the truth, I have not found such faith in anyone in Israel! **8:11** I tell you, many will come from the east and west to share the banquet with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, **8:12** but the sons of the kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” **8:13** Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go; just as you believed, it will be done for you.” And the servant was healed at that hour.

Also see Luke 7:3-10 (Centurion's Slave) and John 4:46-54 (Royal Official's Son)

Matthew 9 – Workers for the Harvest

9:35 Then Jesus went throughout all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and sickness. **9:36** When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were bewildered and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. **9:37** Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. **9:38** Therefore **ask the Lord** of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.”

Matthew 11 – Jesus’ Invitation

11:25 At that time **Jesus said**, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and revealed them to little children. **11:26** Yes, Father, for this was your gracious will. **11:27** All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son decides to reveal him. **11:28** Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. **11:29** Take my yoke on you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **11:30** For my yoke is easy to bear, and my load is not hard to carry.”

Prayer in the New Testament

Matthew 14 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand

14:13 Now when Jesus heard this he went away from there privately in a boat to an isolated place. But when the crowd heard about it, they followed him on foot from the towns. **14:14** As he got out he saw the large crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. **14:15** When evening arrived, his disciples came to him saying, “This is an isolated place and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” **14:16** But he replied, “They don’t need to go. You give them something to eat.” **14:17** They said to him, “We have here only five loaves and two fish.” **14:18** “Bring them here to me,” he replied. **14:19** Then he instructed the crowds to sit down on the grass. **He took the five loaves and two fish, and looking up to heaven he gave thanks and broke the loaves.** He gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. **14:20** They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the broken pieces left over, twelve baskets full. **14:21** Not counting women and children, there were about five thousand men who ate.

See Mark 6:30-44 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), Luke 9:10-17 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), John 6:1-15 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand).

Also, the Feeding of the Four Thousand: Matthew 15:32-39, Mark 8:1-10.

Matthew 14 – Walking on Water

14:22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of him to the other side, while he dispersed the crowds. **14:23** And after he sent the crowds away, he went up the mountain by himself to **pray**. When evening came, he was there alone. **14:24** Meanwhile the boat, already far from land, was taking a beating from the waves because the wind was against it. **14:25** As the night was ending, Jesus came to them walking on the sea. **14:26** When the disciples saw him walking on the water they were terrified and said, “It’s a ghost!” and cried out with fear. **14:27** But immediately Jesus spoke to them: “Have courage! It is I. Do not be afraid.” **14:28** Peter said to him, “Lord, if it is you, order me to come to you on the water.” **14:29** So he said, “Come.” Peter got out of the boat, walked on the water, and came toward Jesus. **14:30** But when he saw the strong wind he became afraid. And starting to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” **14:31** Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” **14:32** When they went up into the boat, the wind ceased. **14:33** Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Matthew 15 – A Canaanite Woman’s Faith

15:21 After going out from there, Jesus went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. **15:22** A Canaanite woman from that area came and cried out, **“Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is horribly demon-possessed!”** **15:23** But he did not answer her a word. Then his disciples came and begged him, “Send her away, because she keeps on crying out after us.” **15:24** So he answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” **15:25** But she came and bowed down before him and said, “Lord, help me!” **15:26** “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs,” he said. **15:27** “Yes, Lord,” she replied, **“but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”** **15:28** Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, your faith is great! Let what you want be done for you.” And her daughter was healed from that hour.

See also Mark 7:24-30.

Matthew 15 – The Feeding of the Four Thousand

15:32 Then Jesus called the disciples and said, “I have compassion on the crowd, because they have

Prayer in the New Testament

already been here with me three days and they have nothing to eat. I don't want to send them away hungry since they may faint on the way." **15:33** The disciples said to him, "Where can we get enough bread in this desolate place to satisfy so great a crowd?" **15:34** Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" They replied, "Seven – and a few small fish." **15:35** After instructing the crowd to sit down on the ground, **15:36** he took the seven loaves and the fish, **and after giving thanks, he broke them and began giving them to the disciples**, who then gave them to the crowds. **15:37** They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. **15:38** Not counting children and women, there were four thousand men who ate. **15:39** After sending away the crowd, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan.

See also Mark 8:1-10 (The Feeding of the Four Thousand).

Also see "The Feeding of the Five Thousand:" Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-15.

Matthew 17 – The Disciples' Failure to Heal

17:14 When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him, **17:15** and said, "**Lord, have mercy on my son, because he has seizures and suffers terribly, for he often falls into the fire and into the water.**" **17:16** I brought him to your disciples, but they were not able to heal him." **17:17** Jesus answered, "You unbelieving and perverse generation! How much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I endure you? Bring him here to me." **17:18** Then Jesus rebuked the demon and it came out of him, and the boy was healed from that moment. **17:19** Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why couldn't we cast it out?" **17:20** He told them, "It was because of your little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 18 – From "Restoring Christian Relationships"

18:19 Again, I tell you the truth, if two of you on earth agree about **whatever you ask**, my Father in heaven will do it for you. **18:20** For where two or three are assembled in my name, I am there among them.

Matthew 19 – Jesus and Little Children

19:13 Then little children were brought to him for him to lay his hands on them and **pray**. But the disciples scolded those who brought them. **19:14** But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not try to stop them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." **19:15** And he placed his hands on them and went on his way.

Matthew 20 – Two Blind Men Healed

20:29 As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed them. **20:30** Two blind men were sitting by the road. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, "**Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!**" **20:31** The crowd scolded them to get them to be quiet. But they shouted even more loudly, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!" **20:32** Jesus stopped, called them, and said, "What do you want me to do for you?" **20:33** They said to him, "**Lord, let our eyes be opened.**" **20:34** Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes.

Prayer in the New Testament

Immediately they received their sight and followed him.

See also Mark 10:46-52 (Healing Blind Bartimaeus) and Luke 18:35-43 (Healing a Blind Man).

Matthew 21 – Cleansing the Temple

21:12 Then Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all those who were selling and buying in the temple courts, and turned over the tables of the money changers and the chairs of those selling doves. **21:13** And he said to them, “It is written, ‘*My house will be called a house of prayer,*’ but you are turning it into *a den of robbers!*”

21:14 The blind and lame came to him in the temple courts, and he healed them. **21:15** But when the chief priests and the experts in the law saw the wonderful things he did and heard the children crying out in the temple courts, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they became indignant **21:16** and said to him, “Do you hear what they are saying?” Jesus said to them, “Yes. Have you never read, ‘*Out of the mouths of children and nursing infants you have prepared praise for yourself?*’” **21:17** And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and spent the night there.

Matthew 21 – The Withered Fig Tree

21:18 Now early in the morning, as he returned to the city, he was hungry. **21:19** After noticing a fig tree by the road he went to it, but found nothing on it except leaves. He said to it, “Never again will there be fruit from you!” And the fig tree withered at once. **21:20** When the disciples saw it they were amazed, saying, “How did the fig tree wither so quickly?” **21:21** Jesus answered them, “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ it will happen. **21:22** And whatever you ask in **prayer**, if you believe, you will receive.”

Matthew 24 – The Abomination of Desolation

24:15 “So when you see *the abomination of desolation* – spoken about by Daniel the prophet – standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), **24:16** then those in Judea must flee to the mountains. **24:17** The one on the roof must not come down to take anything out of his house, **24:18** and the one in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. **24:19** Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing their babies in those days! **24:20** **Pray** that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. **24:21** For then there will be great suffering unlike anything that has happened from the beginning of the world until now, or ever will happen. **24:22** And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

Matthew 26 – The Lord’s Supper

26:26 **While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat, this is my body.”** **26:27** And after taking the cup **and giving thanks**, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, **26:28** for this is my blood, the blood of the covenant, that is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **26:29** I tell you, from now on I will not drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” **26:30** After singing a hymn, they went out to

Prayer in the New Testament

the Mount of Olives.

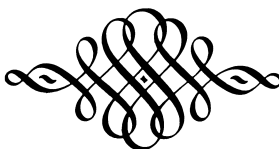
See Mark 14:22-26 (The Lord's Supper), Luke 22:14-20 (The Lord's Supper), I Cor. 11:11-34 (The Lord's Supper).

Matthew 26 – Gethsemane

26:36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to the disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and **pray**.” **26:37** He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and became anguished and distressed. **26:38** Then he said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to the point of death. Remain here and stay awake with me.” **26:39** Going a little farther, he threw himself down with his face to the ground and **prayed**, “My Father, if possible, let this cup pass from me! Yet not what I will, but what you will.” **26:40** Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, “So, couldn’t you stay awake with me for one hour? **26:41** Stay awake and **pray** that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **26:42** He went away a second time and **prayed**, “My Father, if this cup cannot be taken away unless I drink it, your will must be done.” **26:43** He came again and found them sleeping; they could not keep their eyes open. **26:44** So leaving them again, he went away and **prayed** for the third time, saying the same thing once more. **26:45** Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is approaching, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **26:46** Get up, let us go. Look! My betrayer is approaching!”

Matthew 27 – Jesus’ Death

27:45 Now from noon until three, darkness came over all the land. **27:46** At about three o’clock **Jesus shouted** with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” **27:47** When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.”



The Gospel of Mark

Mark 1 – Healings at Simon’s House

1:29 Now as soon as they left the synagogue, they entered Simon and Andrew’s house, with James and John. **1:30** Simon’s mother-in-law was lying down, sick with a fever, so **they spoke to Jesus** at once about her. **1:31** He came and raised her up by gently taking her hand. Then the fever left her and she began to serve them.

See also Luke 4:38-39.

Prayer in the New Testament

Mark 1 – Praying and Preaching

1:35 Then Jesus got up early in the morning when it was still very dark, departed, and went out to a deserted place, and there he spent time in **prayer**. **1:36** Simon and his companions searched for him. **1:37** When they found him, they said, “Everyone is looking for you.” **1:38** He replied, “Let us go elsewhere, into the surrounding villages, so that I can preach there too. For that is what I came out here to do.” **1:39** So he went into all of Galilee preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Mark 1 – Cleansing a Leper

1:40 Now a leper came to him and fell to his knees, asking for help. “**If you are willing, you can make me clean,**” he said. **1:41** Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing. Be clean!” **1:42** The leprosy left him at once, and he was clean. **1:43** Immediately Jesus sent the man away with a very strong warning. **1:44** He told him, “See that you do not say anything to anyone, but go, show yourself to a priest, and bring the offering that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.” **1:45** But as the man went out he began to announce it publicly and spread the story widely, so that Jesus was no longer able to enter any town openly but stayed outside in remote places. Still they kept coming to him from everywhere.

See also Matthew 8:1-4 and Luke 11:15-19.

Mark 2 – Healing and Forgiving a Paralytic

2:1 Now after some days, when he returned to Capernaum, the news spread that he was at home. **2:2** So many gathered that there was no longer any room, not even by the door, and he preached the word to them. **2:3** Some people came bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. **2:4** **When they were not able to bring him in because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Jesus. Then, after tearing it out, they lowered the stretcher the paralytic was lying on.** **2:5** When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” **2:6** Now some of the experts in the law were sitting there, turning these things over in their minds: **2:7** “Why does this man speak this way? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” **2:8** Now immediately, when Jesus realized in his spirit that they were contemplating such thoughts, he said to them, “Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? **2:9** Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up, take your stretcher, and walk’? **2:10** But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,” – he said to the paralytic – **2:11** “I tell you, stand up, take your stretcher, and go home.” **2:12** And immediately the man stood up, took his stretcher, and went out in front of them all. They were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

See also Luke 5:17-26.

Mark 6 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand

6:30 Then the apostles gathered around Jesus and told him everything they had done and taught. **6:31** He said to them, “Come with me privately to an isolated place and rest a while” (for many were coming and going, and there was no time to eat). **6:32** So they went away by themselves in a boat to some remote place. **6:33** But many saw them leaving and recognized them, and they hurried on foot from all the towns and arrived there ahead of them. **6:34** As Jesus came ashore he saw the large crowd and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he taught them many things.

Prayer in the New Testament

6:35 When it was already late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is an isolated place and it is already very late. **6:36** Send them away so that they can go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.” **6:37** But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said, “Should we go and buy bread for two hundred silver coins and give it to them to eat?” **6:38** He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” When they found out, they said, “Five – and two fish.” **6:39** Then he directed them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. **6:40** So they reclined in groups of hundreds and fifties. **6:41** He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. He gave them to his disciples to serve the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. **6:42** They all ate and were satisfied, **6:43** and they picked up the broken pieces and fish that were left over, twelve baskets full. **6:44** Now there were five thousand men who ate the bread.

See Matthew 14:13-21 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), Luke 9:10-17 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), John 6:1-15 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand).

Also, the Feeding of the Four Thousand: Matthew 15:32-39, Mark 8:1-10.

Mark 6 – Walking on Water

6:45 Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dispersed the crowd. **6:46** After saying good-bye to them, he went to the mountain to pray. **6:47** When evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea and he was alone on the land. **6:48** He saw them straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. As the night was ending, he came to them walking on the sea, for he wanted to pass by them. **6:49** When they saw him walking on the water they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, **6:50** for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them: “Have courage! It is I. Do not be afraid.” **6:51** Then he went up with them into the boat, and the wind ceased. They were completely astonished, **6:52** because they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

Mark 7 – A Syrophenician Woman’s Faith

7:24 After Jesus left there, he went to the region of Tyre. When he went into a house, he did not want anyone to know, but he was not able to escape notice. **7:25** Instead, a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him and came and fell at his feet. **7:26** The woman was a Greek, of Syrophenician origin. She asked him to cast the demon out of her daughter. **7:27** He said to her, “Let the children be satisfied first, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and to throw it to the dogs.” **7:28** She answered, “Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” **7:29** Then he said to her, “Because you said this, you may go. The demon has left your daughter.” **7:30** She went home and found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

See also Matthew 15:21-28.

Mark 8 – The Feeding of the Four Thousand

8:1 In those days there was another large crowd with nothing to eat. So Jesus called his disciples and said to them, **8:2** “I have compassion on the crowd, because they have already been here with me three days, and they have nothing to eat. **8:3** If I send them home hungry, they will faint on the way, and some of them have come from a great distance.” **8:4** His disciples answered him, “Where can someone get enough bread in this

Prayer in the New Testament

desolate place to satisfy these people?” **8:5** He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” They replied, “Seven.” **8:6** Then he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. After he took the seven loaves and gave thanks, he broke them and began giving them to the disciples to serve. So they served the crowd. **8:7** They also had a few small fish. **After giving thanks for these**, he told them to serve these as well. **8:8** Everyone ate and was satisfied, and they picked up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. **8:9** There were about four thousand who ate. Then he dismissed them. **8:10** Immediately he got into a boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

See also Matthew 15:32-39 (The Feeding of the Four Thousand).

Also see “The Feeding of the Five Thousand:” Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-15.

Mark 9 – The Disciples’ Failure to Heal

9:14 When they came to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and experts in the law arguing with them. **9:15** When the whole crowd saw him, they were amazed and ran at once and greeted him. **9:16** He asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” **9:17** A member of the crowd said to him, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that makes him mute. **9:18** Whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they were not able to do so.” **9:19** He answered them, “You unbelieving generation! How much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I endure you? Bring him to me.” **9:20** So they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. **9:21** Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. **9:22** It has often thrown him into fire or water to destroy him. But if you are able to do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” **9:23** Then Jesus said to him, “‘If you are able?’ All things are possible for the one who believes.” **9:24** Immediately the father of the boy cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”

9:25 Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was quickly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “Mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” **9:26** It shrieked, threw him into terrible convulsions, and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He is dead!” **9:27** But Jesus gently took his hand and raised him to his feet, and he stood up.

9:28 Then, after he went into the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we cast it out?” **9:29** He told them, “This kind can come out only by **prayer**.”

Mark 10 – Healing Blind Bartimaeus

10:46 They came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus the son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the road. **10:47** When he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” **10:48** Many scolded him to get him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” **10:49** Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” So they called the blind man and said to him, “Have courage! Get up! He is calling you.” **10:50** He threw off his cloak, jumped up, and came to Jesus. **10:51** Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man replied, “Rabbi, let me see again.” **10:52** Jesus said to him, “Go, your faith has healed you.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the road.

See also Matthew 20:29-34 (Two Blind Men Healed) and Luke 18:35-43 (Healing a Blind Man).

Prayer in the New Testament

Mark 11 – Cursing of the Fig Tree and Cleansing the Temple

11:12 Now the next day, as they went out from Bethany, he was hungry. **11:13** After noticing in the distance a fig tree with leaves, he went to see if he could find any fruit on it. When he came to it he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. **11:14** He said to it, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard it.

11:15 Then they came to Jerusalem. Jesus entered the temple area and began to drive out those who were selling and buying in the temple courts. He turned over the tables of the money changers and the chairs of those selling doves, **11:16** and he would not permit anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. **11:17** Then he began to teach them and said, “Is it not written: ‘*My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations*’? But you have turned it into *a den of robbers!*” **11:18** The chief priests and the experts in the law heard it and they considered how they could assassinate him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed by his teaching. **11:19** When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

Mark 11 – The Withered Fig Tree

11:20 In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. **11:21** Peter remembered and said to him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered.” **11:22** Jesus said to them, “Have faith in God. **11:23** I tell you the truth, if someone says to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. **11:24** For this reason I tell you, whatever you pray and ask for, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. **11:25** Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven will also forgive you your sins.”

Mark 12 – Warnings About Experts in the Law

12:38 In his teaching Jesus also said, “Watch out for the experts in the law. They like walking around in long robes and elaborate greetings in the marketplaces, **12:39** and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. **12:40** They devour widows’ property, and as a show make long prayers. These men will receive a more severe punishment.”

Mark 13 – The Abomination of Desolation

13:14 “But when you see *the abomination of desolation* standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains. **13:15** The one on the roof must not come down or go inside to take anything out of his house. **13:16** The one in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. **13:17** Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing their babies in those days! **13:18** Pray that it may not be in winter. **13:19** For in those days there will be suffering unlike anything that has happened from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, or ever will happen. **13:20** And if the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would be saved. But because of the elect, whom he chose, he has cut them short. **13:21** Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘Look, there he is!’ do not believe him. **13:22** For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, the elect. **13:23**

Prayer in the New Testament

Be careful! I have told you everything ahead of time.

Mark 14 – The Lord’s Supper

14:22 While they were eating, he took bread, and after giving thanks he broke it, gave it to them, and said, “Take it. This is my body.” **14:23** And after taking the cup and giving thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. **14:24** He said to them, “This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, that is poured out for many. **14:25** I tell you the truth, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.” **14:26** After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

See Matthew 26:26-42 (The Lord’s Supper), Luke 22:14-20 (The Lord’s Supper), I Cor. 11:11-34 (The Lord’s Supper).

Mark 14 – Gethsemane

14:32 Then they went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” **14:33** He took Peter, James, and John with him, and became very troubled and distressed. **14:34** He said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to the point of death. Remain here and stay alert.” **14:35** Going a little farther, he threw himself to the ground and prayed that if it were possible the hour would pass from him. **14:36** He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Take this cup away from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” **14:37** Then he came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Couldn’t you stay awake for one hour? **14:38** Stay awake and pray that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **14:39** He went away again and prayed the same thing. **14:40** When he came again he found them sleeping; they could not keep their eyes open. And they did not know what to tell him. **14:41** He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough of that! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **14:42** Get up, let us go. Look! My betrayer is approaching!”

Mark 15 – Jesus’ Death

15:33 Now when it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. **15:34** Around three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” **15:35** When some of the bystanders heard it they said, “Listen, he is calling for Elijah!”



Prayer in the New Testament

The Gospel of Luke

Luke 1 – Birth Announcement of John the Baptist

1:5 During the reign of Herod king of Judea, there lived a priest named Zechariah who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah, and he had a wife named Elizabeth, who was a descendant of Aaron. **1:6** They were both righteous in the sight of God, following all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly. **1:7** But they did not have a child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both very old.

1:8 Now while Zechariah was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, **1:9** he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the holy place of the Lord and burn incense. **1:10** Now the whole crowd of people were praying outside at the hour of the incense offering. **1:11** An angel of the Lord, standing on the right side of the altar of incense, appeared to him. **1:12** And Zechariah, visibly shaken when he saw the angel, was seized with fear. **1:13** But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son; you will name him John. **1:14** Joy and gladness will come to you, and many will rejoice at his birth, **1:15** for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth. **1:16** He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. **1:17** And he will go as forerunner before the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers back to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared for him.”

Luke 1 – Mary’s Hymn of Praise (The Magnificat)

1:46 And Mary said,

“My soul exalts the Lord,

1:47 and my spirit has begun to rejoice in God my Savior,

1:48 because he has looked upon the humble state of his servant.

For from now on all generations will call me blessed,

1:49 because he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name;

1:50 from generation to generation he is merciful to those who fear him.

1:51 He has demonstrated power with his arm; he has scattered those whose pride wells up from the sheer arrogance of their hearts.

1:52 He has brought down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up those of lowly position;

1:53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and has sent the rich away empty.

1:54 He has helped his servant Israel, remembering his mercy,

1:55 as he promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Luke 1 – Zechariah’s Praise and Prediction (The Benedictus)

1:67 Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied,

1:68 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
because he has come to help and has redeemed his people.

1:69 For he has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,

1:70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from long ago,

Prayer in the New Testament

1:71 that we should be saved from our enemies,
and from the hand of all who hate us.
1:72 He has done this to show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant –
1:73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham.
This oath grants
1:74 that we, being rescued from the hand of our enemies,
may serve him without fear,
1:75 in holiness and righteousness before him for as long as we live.
1:76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High.
For you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
1:77 to give his people knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins.
1:78 Because of our God’s tender mercy
the dawn will break upon us from on high
1:79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Luke 2 – Healing and Forgiving a Paralytic

2:1 Now after some days, when he returned to Capernaum, the news spread that he was at home. **2:2** So many gathered that there was no longer any room, not even by the door, and he preached the word to them. **2:3** Some people came bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. **2:4** When they were not able to bring him in because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Jesus. Then, after tearing it out, they lowered the stretcher the paralytic was lying on. **2:5** When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” **2:6** Now some of the experts in the law were sitting there, turning these things over in their minds: **2:7** “Why does this man speak this way? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” **2:8** Now immediately, when Jesus realized in his spirit that they were contemplating such thoughts, he said to them, “Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? **2:9** Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up, take your stretcher, and walk’? **2:10** But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,” – he said to the paralytic – **2:11** “I tell you, stand up, take your stretcher, and go home.” **2:12** And immediately the man stood up, took his stretcher, and went out in front of them all. They were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

See also Mark 2:1-11.

Luke 2 – The Prophecy of Simeon (The Nunc Dimittis)

2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon who was righteous and devout, looking for the restoration of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. **2:26** It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. **2:27** So Simeon, directed by the Spirit, came into the temple courts, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, **2:28** Simeon took him in his arms and blessed God, saying,

2:29 “Now, according to your word, Sovereign Lord, permit your servant to depart in peace.
2:30 For my eyes have seen your salvation
2:31 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples:
2:32 a light, for revelation to the Gentiles,

Prayer in the New Testament

and for glory to your people Israel.”

2:33 So the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him. **2:34** Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “Listen carefully: This child is destined to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be rejected. **2:35** Indeed, as a result of him the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul as well!”

Luke 2 – The Testimony of Anna

2:36 There was also a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old, having been married to her husband for seven years until his death. **2:37** She had lived as a widow since then for eighty-four years. She never left the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. **2:38** At that moment, she came up to them [Mary and Jesus] and began to give thanks to God and to speak about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Luke 3 – The Baptism of Jesus

3:21 Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus also was baptized. And while he was praying, the heavens opened, **3:22** and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my one dear Son; in you I take great delight.”

Luke 4 – From “Ministry in Capernaum”

4:38 After Jesus left the synagogue, he entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. **4:39** So he stood over her, commanded the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them.

See also Mark 1:29-31.

Luke 5 – Healing a Leper

5:12 While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came to him who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he bowed down with his face to the ground and begged him, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.” **5:13** So he stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing. Be clean!” And immediately the leprosy left him. **5:14** Then he ordered the man to tell no one, but commanded him, “Go and show yourself to a priest, and bring the offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.” **5:15** But the news about him spread even more, and large crowds were gathering together to hear him and to be healed of their illnesses. **5:16** Yet Jesus himself frequently withdrew to the wilderness and prayed.

Luke 5 – The Superiority of the New

5:33 Then they said to him, “John’s disciples frequently fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours continue to eat and drink.” **5:34** So Jesus said to them, “You cannot make the wedding

Prayer in the New Testament

guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? **5:35** But those days are coming, and when the bridegroom is taken from them, at that time they will fast.” **5:36** He also told them a parable: “No one tears a patch from a new garment and sews it on an old garment. If he does, he will have torn the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. **5:37** And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. **5:38** Instead new wine must be poured into new wineskins. **5:39** No one after drinking old wine wants the new, for he says, ‘The old is good enough.’”

Luke 6 – Choosing the Twelve Apostles

6:12 Now it was during this time that Jesus went out to the mountain to **pray**, and he spent all night in **prayer** to God. **6:13** When morning came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: **6:14** Simon (whom he named Peter), and his brother Andrew; and James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, **6:15** Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, **6:16** Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Luke 6 – From “The Sermon On The Plain”

6:27 “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, **6:28** bless those who curse you, **pray** for those who mistreat you. **6:29** To the person who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other as well, and from the person who takes away your coat, do not withhold your tunic either. **6:30** Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your possessions back from the person who takes them away. **6:31** Treat others in the same way that you would want them to treat you.

6:32 “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. **6:33** And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. **6:34** And if you lend to those from whom you hope to be repaid, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, so that they may be repaid in full. **6:35** But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to ungrateful and evil people. **6:36** Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Luke 7 – Healing the Centurion’s Slave

7:1 After Jesus had finished teaching all this to the people, he entered Capernaum. **7:2** A centurion there had a slave who was highly regarded, but who was sick and at the point of death. **7:3** When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. **7:4** When they came to Jesus, they urged him earnestly, “He is worthy to have you do this for him, **7:5** because he loves our nation, and even built our synagogue.” **7:6** So Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. **7:7** That is why I did not presume to come to you. Instead, **say the word, and my servant must be healed.** **7:8** For I too am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” **7:9** When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him. He turned and said to the crowd that followed him, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith!” **7:10** So when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave well.

See also Matthew 8:5-13 (Centurion's Servant) and John 4:46-54 (Royal Official's Son).

Prayer in the New Testament

Luke 9 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand

9:10 When the apostles returned, they told Jesus everything they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew privately to a town called Bethsaida. **9:11** But when the crowds found out, they followed him. He welcomed them, spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and cured those who needed healing. **9:12** Now the day began to draw to a close, so the twelve came and said to Jesus, “Send the crowd away, so they can go into the surrounding villages and countryside and find lodging and food, because we are in an isolated place.” **9:13** But he said to them, “You give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have no more than five loaves and two fish – unless we go and buy food for all these people.” **9:14** (Now about five thousand men were there.) Then he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” **9:15** So they did as Jesus directed, and the people all sat down.

9:16 Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven he gave thanks and broke them. He gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. **9:17** They all ate and were satisfied, and what was left over was picked up – twelve baskets of broken pieces.

See Matthew 14:13-21 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), Mark 6:30-44 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), John 6:1-15 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand).

Also, the Feeding of the Four Thousand: Matthew 15:32-39, Mark 8:1-10.

Luke 9 – Peter’s Confession

9:18 Once when Jesus was **praying** by himself, and his disciples were nearby, he asked them, “Who do the crowds say that I am?” **9:19** They answered, “John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others that one of the prophets of long ago has risen.” **9:20** Then he said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered, “The Christ of God.” **9:21** But he forcefully commanded them not to tell this to anyone, **9:22** saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”

Luke 9 – The Transfiguration

9:28 Now about eight days after these sayings [*The Call To Discipleship*], Jesus took with him Peter, John, and James, and went up the mountain to **pray**. **9:29** As he was **praying**, the appearance of his face was transformed, and his clothes became very bright, a brilliant white. **9:30** Then two men, Moses and Elijah, began talking with him. **9:31** They appeared in glorious splendor and spoke about his departure that he was about to carry out at Jerusalem. **9:32** Now Peter and those with him were quite sleepy, but as they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. **9:33** Then as the men were starting to leave, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three shelters, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah” – not knowing what he was saying. **9:34** As he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. **9:35** Then a voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him!” **9:36** After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. So they kept silent and told no one at that time anything of what they had seen.

Prayer in the New Testament

Luke 10 – From “The Mission of the Seventy-Two”

10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him two by two into every town and place where he himself was about to go. **10:2** He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore **ask** the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.

...

10:21 On that same occasion **Jesus** rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and **said**, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your gracious will. **10:22** All things have been given to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son decides to reveal him.”

Luke 11 – Instructions on Prayer

11:1 Now Jesus was **praying** in a certain place. When he stopped, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to **pray**, just as John taught his disciples.” **11:2** So he said to them, “When you **pray**, say:

Father, may your name be honored;
may your kingdom come.

11:3 Give us each day our daily bread,

11:4 and forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.
And do not lead us into temptation.”

11:5 Then he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, **11:6** because a friend of mine has stopped here while on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him.’ **11:7** Then he will reply from inside, ‘Do not bother me. The door is already shut, and my children and I are in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything.’ **11:8** I tell you, even though the man inside will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of the first man’s sheer persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

11:9 “So I tell you: **Ask, and it will be given to you**; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. **11:10** For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. **11:11** What father among you, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead of a fish? **11:12** Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? **11:13** If you then, although you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to **those who ask him!**”

Luke 15 – From “The Parable of the Compassionate Father”

15:17 But when he came to his senses he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired workers have food enough to spare, but here I am dying from hunger! **15:18** I will get up and go to my father and **say to him**, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. **15:19** I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired workers.’” **15:20** So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way from home his father saw him, and his heart went out to him; he ran and hugged his son and kissed him.

Prayer in the New Testament

Luke 17 – The Grateful Leper

17:11 Now on the way to Jerusalem, Jesus was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. **17:12** As he was entering a village, ten men with leprosy met him. They stood at a distance, **17:13** raised their voices and **said**, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” **17:14** When he saw them he said, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went along, they were cleansed. **17:15** Then one of them, when he saw he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. **17:16** He fell with his face to the ground at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. (Now he was a Samaritan.) **17:17** Then Jesus said, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? **17:18** Was no one found to turn back and give praise to God except this foreigner?” **17:19** Then he said to the man, “Get up and go your way. Your faith has made you well.”

Luke 18 – Prayer and the Parable of the Persistent Widow

18:1 Then Jesus told them a parable to show them they should always **pray** and not lose heart. **18:2** He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people. **18:3** There was also a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ **18:4** For a while he refused, but later on he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor have regard for people, **18:5** yet because this widow keeps on bothering me, I will give her justice, or in the end she will wear me out by her unending pleas.’” **18:6** And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unrighteous judge says! **18:7** Won’t God give justice to his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he delay long to help them? **18:8** I tell you, he will give them justice speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

Luke 18 – The Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector

18:9 Jesus also told this parable to some who were confident that they were righteous and looked down on everyone else. **18:10** “Two men went up to the temple to **pray**, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **18:11** The Pharisee stood and **prayed** about himself like this: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: extortionists, unrighteous people, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. **18:12** I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of everything I get.’ **18:13** The tax collector, however, stood far off and would not even look up to heaven, but **beat his breast and said**, ‘God, be merciful to me, sinner that I am!’ **18:14** I tell you that this man went down to his home justified rather than the Pharisee. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 18 – Healing a Blind Man

18:35 As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the road begging. **18:36** When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was going on. **18:37** They told him, “Jesus the Nazarene is passing by.” **18:38** So **he called out**, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” **18:39** And those who were in front scolded him to get him to be quiet, but he shouted even more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” **18:40** So Jesus stopped and ordered the beggar to be brought to him. When the man came near, Jesus asked him, **18:41** “What do you want me to do for you?” He replied, “Lord, let me see again.” **18:42** Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.” **18:43** And immediately he regained his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they too gave praise to God.

See also Matthew 20:29-34 (Two Blind Men Healed) and Mark 10:46-52 (Healing Blind Bartimaeus)

Prayer in the New Testament

Luke 19 – Cleansing the Temple

19:45 Then Jesus entered the temple courts and began to drive out those who were selling things there, **19:46** saying to them, “It is written, ‘*My house will be a house of prayer,*’ but you have turned it into *a den of robbers!*”

19:47 Jesus was teaching daily in the temple courts. The chief priests and the experts in the law and the prominent leaders among the people were seeking to assassinate him, **19:48** but they could not find a way to do it, for all the people hung on his words.

Luke 20 – Jesus Warns the Disciples against Pride

20:45 As all the people were listening, Jesus said to his disciples, **20:46** “Beware of the experts in the law. They like walking around in long robes, and they love elaborate greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. **20:47** They devour widows’ property, and as a show make long prayers. They will receive a more severe punishment.”

Luke 21 – Be Ready!

21:34 “But be on your guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day close down upon you suddenly like a trap. **21:35** For it will overtake all who live on the face of the whole earth. **21:36** But stay alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that must happen, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

21:37 So every day Jesus was teaching in the temple courts, but at night he went and stayed on the Mount of Olives. **21:38** And all the people came to him early in the morning to listen to him in the temple courts.

Luke 22 – The Lord’s Supper

22:14 Now when the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table and the apostles joined him. **22:15** And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. **22:16** For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” **22:17** Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves. **22:18** For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” **22:19** Then he took bread, and after giving thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **22:20** And in the same way he took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

See Matthew 26:26-42 (The Lord’s Supper), Mark 14:22-26 (The Lord’s Supper), I Cor. 11:11-34 (The Lord’s Supper).

Luke 22 – From “A Final Discourse”

22:31 “Simon, Simon, pay attention! Satan has demanded to have you all, to sift you like wheat, **22:32**

Prayer in the New Testament

but I have **prayed** for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. When you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” **22:33** But Peter said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death!” **22:34** Jesus replied, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know me.”

Luke 22 – On the Mount of Olives

22:39 Then Jesus went out and made his way, as he customarily did, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. **22:40** When he came to the place, he said to them, “**Pray** that you will not fall into temptation.” **22:41** He went away from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and **prayed**, **22:42** “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Yet not my will but yours be done.” [**22:43** Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. **22:44** And in his anguish he **prayed** more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.] **22:45** When he got up from **prayer**, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, exhausted from grief. **22:46** So he said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and **pray** that you will not fall into temptation!”

Luke 23 – The Crucifixion

23:26 As they led him away, they seized Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country. They placed the cross on his back and made him carry it behind Jesus. **23:27** A great number of the people followed him, among them women who were mourning and wailing for him. **23:28** But Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. **23:29** For this is certain: The days are coming **when they will say**, ‘Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore children, and the breasts that never nursed!’ **23:30** **Then they will begin to say** to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’ **23:31** For if such things are done when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

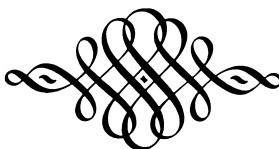
23:32 Two other criminals were also led away to be executed with him. **23:33** So when they came to the place that is called “The Skull,” they crucified him there, along with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. **23:34** [But **Jesus said**, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”] Then they threw dice to divide his clothes. **23:35** The people also stood there watching, but the rulers ridiculed him, saying, “He saved others. Let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, his chosen one!” **23:36** The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, **23:37** and saying, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself!” **23:38** There was also an inscription over him, “This is the king of the Jews.”

23:39 One of the criminals who was hanging there railed at him, saying, “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” **23:40** But the other rebuked him, saying, “Don’t you fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? **23:41** And we rightly so, for we are getting what we deserve for what we did, but this man has done nothing wrong.” **23:42** **Then he said**, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” **23:43** And Jesus said to him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”

23:44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, **23:45** because the sun’s light failed. The temple curtain was torn in two. **23:46** Then **Jesus, calling out** with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And after he said this he breathed his last.

23:47 Now when the centurion saw what had happened, **he praised God and said**, “Certainly this man was innocent!” **23:48** And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. **23:49** And all those who knew Jesus stood at a distance, and the women who had followed him from Galilee saw these things.

Prayer in the New Testament



The Gospel of John

John 4 – Conversation With a Samaritan Woman

4:4 But he had to pass through Samaria. **4:5** Now he came to a Samaritan town called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. **4:6** Jacob’s well was there, so Jesus, since he was tired from the journey, sat right down beside the well. It was about noon.

4:7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me some water to drink.” **4:8** (For his disciples had gone off into the town to buy supplies.) **4:9** So the Samaritan woman said to him, “How can you – a Jew – ask me, a Samaritan woman, for water to drink?” (For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.)

4:10 Jesus answered her, “If you had known the gift of God and who it is who said to you, ‘Give me some water to drink,’ **you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.**” **4:11** “Sir,” the woman said to him, “you have no bucket and the well is deep; where then do you get this living water? **4:12** Surely you’re not greater than our ancestor Jacob, are you? For he gave us this well and drank from it himself, along with his sons and his livestock.”

4:13 Jesus replied, “Everyone who drinks some of this water will be thirsty again. **4:14** But whoever drinks some of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again, but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up to eternal life.” **4:15** The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.” **4:16** He said to her, “Go call your husband and come back here.” **4:17** The woman replied, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “Right you are when you said, ‘I have no husband,’ **4:18** for you have had five husbands, and the man you are living with now is not your husband. This you said truthfully!”

4:19 The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. **4:20** Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you people say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” **4:21** Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. **4:22** You people worship what you do not know. We worship what we know, because salvation is from the Jews. **4:23** But a time is coming – and now is here – when the true worshipers will **worship the Father in spirit and truth**, for the Father seeks such people to be his worshipers. **4:24** God is spirit, and the people who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” **4:25** The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (the one called Christ); “whenever he comes, he will tell us everything.” **4:26** Jesus said to her, “I, the one speaking to you, am he.”

John 4 – Healing the Royal Official’s Son

4:46 Now he came again to Cana in Galilee where he had made the water wine. In Capernaum there was

Prayer in the New Testament

a certain royal official whose son was sick. **4:47** When he heard that Jesus had come back from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and **begged him to come down and heal his son**, who was about to die. **4:48** So Jesus said to him, “Unless you people see signs and wonders you will never believe!” **4:49** “Sir,” the official said to him, “come down before my child dies.” **4:50** Jesus told him, “Go home; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and set off for home.

4:51 While he was on his way down, his slaves met him and told him that his son was going to live. **4:52** So he asked them the time when his condition began to improve, and they told him, “Yesterday at one o’clock in the afternoon the fever left him.” **4:53** Then the father realized that it was the very time Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live,” and he himself believed along with his entire household. **4:54** Jesus did this as his second miraculous sign when he returned from Judea to Galilee.

A similar parable concerning the Centurion's Servant is found in Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 7:3-10.

John 6 – The Feeding of the Five Thousand

6:1 After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (also called the Sea of Tiberias). **6:2** A large crowd was following him because they were observing the miraculous signs he was performing on the sick. **6:3** So Jesus went on up the mountainside and sat down there with his disciples. **6:4** (Now the Jewish feast of the Passover was near.) **6:5** Then Jesus, when he looked up and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, said to Philip, “Where can we buy bread so that these people may eat?” **6:6** (Now Jesus said this to test him, for he knew what he was going to do.) **6:7** Philip replied, “Two hundred silver coins worth of bread would not be enough for them, for each one to get a little.” **6:8** One of Jesus’ disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, **6:9** “Here is a boy who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what good are these for so many people?”

6:10 Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” (Now there was a lot of grass in that place.) So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. **6:11** **Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed the bread to those who were seated.** He then did the same with the fish, as much as they wanted. **6:12** When they were all satisfied, Jesus said to his disciples, “Gather up the broken pieces that are left over, so that nothing is wasted.” **6:13** So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with broken pieces from the five barley loaves left over by the people who had eaten.

6:14 Now when the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus performed, they began to say to one another, “This is certainly *the Prophet who is to come into the world.*” **6:15** Then Jesus, because he knew they were going to come and seize him by force to make him king, withdrew again up the mountainside alone.

See Matthew 14:13-21 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), Mark 6:30-44 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand), Luke 9:10-17 (The Feeding of the Five Thousand).

Also, the Feeding of the Four Thousand: Matthew 15:32-39, Mark 8:1-10.

John 9 – From “The Pharisees’ Reaction to the Healing”

9:28 They [the Pharisees] heaped insults on him [the man who was healed], saying, “You are his disciple! We are disciples of Moses! **9:29** We know that God has spoken to Moses! We do not know where this man comes from!” **9:30** The man replied, “This is a remarkable thing, that you don’t know where he comes from, and yet he caused me to see! **9:31** We know that God doesn’t listen to sinners, but **if anyone is devout and does his will, God listens to him.**”

Prayer in the New Testament

John 11 – Lazarus Raised from the Dead

11:38 Jesus, intensely moved again, came to the tomb. (Now it was a cave, and a stone was placed across it.) **11:39** Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the deceased, replied, “Lord, by this time the body will have a bad smell, because he has been buried four days.” **11:40** Jesus responded, “Didn’t I tell you that if you believe, you would see the glory of God?” **11:41** So they took away the stone. **Jesus looked upward and said**, “Father, I thank you that you have listened to me. **11:42** I knew that you always listen to me, but I said this for the sake of the crowd standing around here, that they may believe that you sent me.” **11:43** When he had said this, he shouted in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” **11:44** The one who had died came out, his feet and hands tied up with strips of cloth, and a cloth wrapped around his face. Jesus said to them, “Unwrap him and let him go.”

John 12 – From “Seekers”

12:27 “Now my soul is greatly distressed. And what **should I say**? ‘Father, deliver me from this hour’? No, but for this very reason I have come to this hour. **12:28** Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

John 14 – From “Jesus’ Parting Words to His Disciples”

14:8 Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be content.” **14:9** Jesus replied, “Have I been with you for so long, and you have not known me, Philip? The person who has seen me has seen the Father! How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? **14:10** Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you, I do not speak on my own initiative, but the Father residing in me performs his miraculous deeds. **14:11** Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me, but if you do not believe me, believe because of the miraculous deeds themselves. **14:12** I tell you the solemn truth, the person who believes in me will perform the miraculous deeds that I am doing, and will perform greater deeds than these, because I am going to the Father. **14:13** And **I will do whatever you ask in my name**, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14:14** **If you ask** me anything in my name, I will do it.

John 15 – The Vine and the Branches

15:1 “I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener. **15:2** He takes away every branch that does not bear fruit in me. He prunes every branch that bears fruit so that it will bear more fruit. **15:3** You are clean already because of the word that I have spoken to you. **15:4** Remain in me, and I will remain in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it remains in the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me.

15:5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me – and I in him – bears much fruit, because apart from me you can accomplish nothing. **15:6** If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown out like a branch, and dries up; and such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, and are burned up. **15:7** **If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you want, and it will be done for you.** **15:8** My Father is honored by this, that you bear much fruit and show that you are my disciples.

Prayer in the New Testament

15:9 “Just as the Father has loved me, I have also loved you; remain in my love. **15:10** If you obey my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. **15:11** I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you, and your joy may be complete. **15:12** My commandment is this – to love one another just as I have loved you. **15:13** No one has greater love than this – that one lays down his life for his friends. **15:14** You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15:15** I no longer call you slaves, because the slave does not understand what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because I have revealed to you everything I heard from my Father. **15:16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that remains, so that **whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you**. **15:17** This I command you – to love one another.

John 16 – From “The Disciples' Grief Will Turn To Joy”

16:19 Jesus could see that they wanted to ask him about these things, so he said to them, “Are you asking each other about this – that I said, ‘In a little while you will not see me; again after a little while, you will see me’?” **16:20** I tell you the solemn truth, you will weep and wail, but the world will rejoice; you will be sad, but your sadness will turn into joy. **16:21** When a woman gives birth, she has distress because her time has come, but when her child is born, she no longer remembers the suffering because of her joy that a human being has been born into the world. **16:22** So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. **16:23** At that time **you will ask** me nothing. I tell you the solemn truth, **whatever you ask** the Father in my name he will give you. **16:24** Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. **Ask** and you will receive it, so that your joy may be complete.

16:25 “I have told you these things in obscure figures of speech; a time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in obscure figures, but will tell you plainly about the Father. **16:26** At that time **you will ask** in my name, and I do not say that I will ask the Father on your behalf. **16:27** For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. **16:28** I came from the Father and entered into the world, but in turn, I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.” ...

16:32 Look, a time is coming – and has come – when you will be scattered, each one to his own home, and I will be left alone. Yet I am not alone, because my Father is with me. **16:33** I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In the world you have trouble and suffering, but take courage – I have conquered the world.”

John 17 – Jesus Prays for the Father to Glorify Him

17:1 When Jesus had finished saying these things, he looked upward to heaven and said, “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that your Son may glorify you – **17:2** just as you have given him authority over all humanity, so that he may give eternal life to everyone you have given him. **17:3** Now this is eternal life – that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent. **17:4** I glorified you on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. **17:5** And now, Father, glorify me at your side with the glory I had with you before the world was created.

John 17 – Jesus Prays for the Disciples

17:6 “I have revealed your name to the men you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have obeyed your word. **17:7** Now they understand that everything you have

Prayer in the New Testament

given me comes from you, **17:8** because I have given them the words you have given me. They accepted them and really understand that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. **17:9** I am **praying** on behalf of them. I am not **praying** on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those you have given me, because they belong to you. **17:10** Everything I have belongs to you, and everything you have belongs to me, and I have been glorified by them. **17:11** I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them safe in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are one. **17:12** When I was with them I kept them safe and watched over them in your name that you have given me. Not one of them was lost except the one destined for destruction, so that the scripture could be fulfilled. **17:13** But now I am coming to you, and I am saying these things in the world, so they may experience my joy completed in themselves. **17:14** I have given them your word, and the world has hated them, because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. **17:15** I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but that you keep them safe from the evil one. **17:16** They do not belong to the world just as I do not belong to the world. **17:17** Set them apart in the truth; your word is truth. **17:18** Just as you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. **17:19** And I set myself apart on their behalf, so that they too may be truly set apart.

John 17 – Jesus Prays for Believers Everywhere

17:20 “I am not **praying** only on their behalf, but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their testimony, **17:21** that they will all be one, just as you, Father, are in me and I am in you. I **pray** that they will be in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me. **17:22** The glory you gave to me I have given to them, that they may be one just as we are one – **17:23** I in them and you in me – that they may be completely one, so that the world will know that you sent me, and you have loved them just as you have loved me.

17:24 “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, so that they can see my glory that you gave me because you loved me before the creation of the world. **17:25** Righteous Father, even if the world does not know you, I know you, and these men know that you sent me. **17:26** I made known your name to them, and I will continue to make it known, so that the love you have loved me with may be in them, and I may be in them.”



The Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1 – A Replacement for Judas is Chosen

1:12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called the Mount of Olives (which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away). **1:13** When they had entered Jerusalem, they went to the upstairs room where they were staying. Peter and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James were there. **1:14** All these

Prayer in the New Testament

continued together in **prayer** with one mind, together with the women, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. **1:15** In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty people) and said, **1:16** “Brothers, the scripture had to be fulfilled that the Holy Spirit foretold through David concerning Judas – who became the guide for those who arrested Jesus – **1:17** for he was counted as one of us and received a share in this ministry.” **1:18** (Now this man Judas acquired a field with the reward of his unjust deed, and falling headfirst he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out. **1:19** This became known to all who lived in Jerusalem, so that in their own language they called that field *Hakeldama*, that is, “Field of Blood.”) **1:20** “For it is written in the book of Psalms, ‘*Let his house become deserted, and let there be no one to live in it,*’ and ‘*Let another take his position of responsibility.*’ **1:21** Thus one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time the Lord Jesus associated with us, **1:22** beginning from his baptism by John until the day he was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness of his resurrection together with us.” **1:23** So they proposed two candidates: Joseph called Barsabbas (also called Justus) and Matthias. **1:24** Then they **prayed**, “Lord, you know the hearts of all. Show us which one of these two you have chosen **1:25** to assume the task of this service and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” **1:26** Then they cast lots for them, and the one chosen was Matthias; so he was counted with the eleven apostles.

Acts 2 – The Fellowship of the Early Believers

2:42 They were devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to **prayer**. **2:43** Reverential awe came over everyone, and many wonders and miraculous signs came about by the apostles. **2:44** All who believed were together and held everything in common, **2:45** and they began selling their property and possessions and distributing the proceeds to everyone, as anyone had need. **2:46** Every day they continued to gather together by common consent in the temple courts, breaking bread from house to house, sharing their food with glad and humble hearts, **2:47** praising God and having the good will of all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number every day those who were being saved.

Acts 3 – Peter and John Heal a Lame Man at the Temple

3:1 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time for **prayer**, at three o’clock in the afternoon. **3:2** And a man lame from birth was being carried up, who was placed at the temple gate called “the Beautiful Gate” every day so he could beg for money from those going into the temple courts. **3:3** When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple courts, he asked them for money. **3:4** Peter looked directly at him (as did John) and said, “Look at us!” **3:5** So the lame man paid attention to them, expecting to receive something from them. **3:6** But Peter said, “I have no silver or gold, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, stand up and walk!” **3:7** Then Peter took hold of him by the right hand and raised him up, and at once the man’s feet and ankles were made strong. **3:8** He jumped up, stood and began walking around, and he entered the temple courts with them, walking and leaping and praising God. **3:9** All the people saw him walking and praising God, **3:10** and they recognized him as the man who used to sit and ask for donations at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with astonishment and amazement at what had happened to him.

Acts 4 – The Followers of Jesus **Pray for Boldness**

4:23 When they were released, Peter and John went to their fellow believers and reported everything the high priests and the elders had said to them. **4:24** When they heard this, they raised their voices to God with one

Prayer in the New Testament

mind and said, “Master of all, you who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them, **4:25** who said by the Holy Spirit through your servant David our forefather,

‘Why do the nations rage,
and the peoples plot foolish things?
4:26 The kings of the earth stood together,
and the rulers assembled together,
against the Lord and against his Christ.’

4:27 “For indeed both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, assembled together in this city against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, **4:28** to do as much as your power and your plan had decided beforehand would happen. **4:29** And now, Lord, pay attention to their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your message with great courage, **4:30** while you extend your hand to heal, and to bring about miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” **4:31** When they had **prayed**, the place where they were assembled together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God courageously.

Acts 6 – The Appointment of the First Seven Deacons

6:1 Now in those days, when the disciples were growing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Greek-speaking Jews against the native Hebraic Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. **6:2** So the twelve called the whole group of the disciples together and said, “It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to wait on tables. **6:3** But carefully select from among you, brothers, seven men who are well-attested, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this necessary task. **6:4** But we will devote ourselves to **prayer** and to the ministry of the word.” **6:5** The proposal pleased the entire group, so they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a Gentile convert to Judaism from Antioch. **6:6** They stood these men before the apostles, who **prayed** and placed their hands on them. **6:7** The word of God continued to spread, the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly, and a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

Acts 7 & 8 – Stephen is Killed and Saul Begins to Persecute the Church

7:54 When they heard these things, they became furious and ground their teeth at him. **7:55** But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked intently toward heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. **7:56** “Look!” he said. “I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” **7:57** But they covered their ears, shouting out with a loud voice, and rushed at him with one intent. **7:58** When they had driven him out of the city, they began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. **7:59** They continued to stone Stephen while he **prayed**, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” **7:60** Then he fell to his knees and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them!” When he had said this, he died. **8:1** And Saul agreed completely with killing him. Now on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were forced to scatter throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria. **8:2** Some devout men buried Stephen and **made loud lamentation** over him. **8:3** But Saul was trying to destroy the church; entering one house after another, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

Prayer in the New Testament

Acts 8 – Philip Preaches in Samaria

8:4 Now those who had been forced to scatter went around proclaiming the good news of the word. **8:5** Philip went down to the main city of Samaria and began proclaiming the Christ to them. **8:6** The crowds were paying attention with one mind to what Philip said, as they heard and saw the miraculous signs he was performing. **8:7** For unclean spirits, crying with loud shrieks, were coming out of many who were possessed, and many paralyzed and lame people were healed. **8:8** So there was great joy in that city.

8:9 Now in that city was a man named Simon, who had been practicing magic and amazing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great. **8:10** All the people, from the least to the greatest, paid close attention to him, saying, “This man is the power of God that is called ‘Great.’” **8:11** And they paid close attention to him because he had amazed them for a long time with his magic. **8:12** But when they believed Philip as he was proclaiming the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they began to be baptized, both men and women. **8:13** Even Simon himself believed, and after he was baptized, he stayed close to Philip constantly, and when he saw the signs and great miracles that were occurring, he was amazed.

8:14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. **8:15** These two went down and **prayed** for them so that they would receive the Holy Spirit. **8:16** (For the Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) **8:17** Then Peter and John placed their hands on the Samaritans, and they received the Holy Spirit.

8:18 Now Simon, when he saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, offered them money, **8:19** saying, “Give me this power too, so that everyone I place my hands on may receive the Holy Spirit.” **8:20** But Peter said to him, “May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could acquire God’s gift with money! **8:21** You have no share or part in this matter because your heart is not right before God! **8:22** Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and **pray** to the Lord that he may perhaps forgive you for the intent of your heart. **8:23** For I see that you are bitterly envious and in bondage to sin.” **8:24** But Simon replied, “You **pray** to the Lord for me so that nothing of what you have said may happen to me.”

8:25 So after Peter and John had solemnly testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they started back to Jerusalem, proclaiming the good news to many Samaritan villages as they went.

Acts 9 – The Conversion of Saul

9:1 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing out threats to murder the Lord’s disciples, went to the high priest **9:2** and requested letters from him to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, either men or women, he could bring them as prisoners to Jerusalem. **9:3** As he was going along, approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. **9:4** He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” **9:5** So he said, “Who are you, Lord?” He replied, “I am Jesus whom you are persecuting! **9:6** But stand up and enter the city and you will be told what you must do.” **9:7** (Now the men who were traveling with him stood there speechless, because they heard the voice but saw no one.) **9:8** So Saul got up from the ground, but although his eyes were open, he could see nothing. Leading him by the hand, his companions brought him into Damascus. **9:9** For three days he could not see, and he neither ate nor drank anything.

9:10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias,” and he replied, “Here I am, Lord.” **9:11** Then the Lord told him, “Get up and go to the street called ‘Straight,’ and at Judas’ house look for a man from Tarsus named Saul. For he is **praying**, **9:12** and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and place his hands on him so that he may see again.” **9:13** But Ananias

Prayer in the New Testament

replied, “Lord, I have heard from many people about this man, how much harm he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, **9:14** and here he has authority from the chief priests to imprison all who call on your name!” **9:15** But the Lord said to him, “Go, because this man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. **9:16** For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” **9:17** So Ananias departed and entered the house, placed his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” **9:18** Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, **9:19** and after taking some food, his strength returned.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, **9:20** and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “This man is the Son of God.” **9:21** All who heard him were amazed and were saying, “Is this not the man who in Jerusalem was ravaging those who call on this name, and who had come here to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?” **9:22** But Saul became more and more capable, and was causing consternation among the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

Acts 9 – Peter Raises Dorcas

9:36 Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which in translation means Dorcas). She was continually doing good deeds and acts of charity. **9:37** At that time she became sick and died. When they had washed her body, they placed it in an upstairs room. **9:38** Because Lydda was near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him and urged him, “Come to us without delay.” **9:39** So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived they brought him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him, crying and showing him the tunics and other clothing Dorcas used to make while she was with them. **9:40** But Peter sent them all outside, knelt down, and **prayed**. Turning to the body, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. **9:41** He gave her his hand and helped her get up. Then he called the saints and widows and presented her alive. **9:42** This became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. **9:43** So Peter stayed many days in Joppa with a man named Simon, a tanner.

Acts 10 – Peter Visits Cornelius

10:1 Now there was a man in Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort. **10:2** He was a devout, God-fearing man, as was all his household; he did many acts of charity for the people and **prayed** to God regularly. **10:3** About three o’clock one afternoon he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God who came in and said to him, “Cornelius.” **10:4** Staring at him and becoming greatly afraid, Cornelius replied, “What is it, Lord?” The angel said to him, “Your **prayers** and your acts of charity have gone up as a memorial before God. **10:5** Now send men to Joppa and summon a man named Simon, who is called Peter. **10:6** This man is staying as a guest with a man named Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea.” **10:7** When the angel who had spoken to him departed, Cornelius called two of his personal servants and a devout soldier from among those who served him, **10:8** and when he had explained everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

10:9 About noon the next day, while they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to **pray**. **10:10** He became hungry and wanted to eat, but while they were preparing the meal, a trance came over him. **10:11** He saw heaven opened and an object something like a large sheet descending, being let down to earth by its four corners. **10:12** In it were all kinds of four-footed animals and reptiles of the earth and wild birds. **10:13** Then a voice said to him, “Get up, Peter; slaughter and eat!” **10:14** But Peter said, “Certainly not, Lord, for I have never eaten anything defiled and ritually unclean!” **10:15** The voice spoke to him again, a second time, “What God has made clean, you must not consider ritually unclean!” **10:16** This happened three

Prayer in the New Testament

times, and immediately the object was taken up into heaven.

10:17 Now while Peter was puzzling over what the vision he had seen could signify, the men sent by Cornelius had learned where Simon's house was and approached the gate. **10:18** They called out to ask if Simon, known as Peter, was staying there as a guest. **10:19** While Peter was still thinking seriously about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look! Three men are looking for you. **10:20** But get up, go down, and accompany them without hesitation, because I have sent them." **10:21** So Peter went down to the men and said, "Here I am, the person you're looking for. Why have you come?" **10:22** They said, "Cornelius the centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man, well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to summon you to his house and to hear a message from you." **10:23** So Peter invited them in and entertained them as guests.

On the next day he got up and set out with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. **10:24** The following day he entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting anxiously for them and had called together his relatives and close friends. **10:25** So when Peter came in, Cornelius met him, fell at his feet, and worshiped him. **10:26** But Peter helped him up, saying, "Stand up. I too am a mere mortal." **10:27** Peter continued talking with him as he went in, and he found many people gathered together. **10:28** He said to them, "You know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile, yet God has shown me that I should call no person defiled or ritually unclean. **10:29** Therefore when you sent for me, I came without any objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?" **10:30** Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock in the afternoon, I was **praying** in my house, and suddenly a man in shining clothing stood before me **10:31** and said, 'Cornelius, your **prayer** has been heard and your acts of charity have been remembered before God. **10:32** Therefore send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is called Peter. This man is staying as a guest in the house of Simon the tanner, by the sea.' **10:33** Therefore I sent for you at once, and you were kind enough to come. So now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to say to us."

10:34 Then Peter started speaking: "I now truly understand that God does not show favoritism in dealing with people, **10:35** but in every nation the person who fears him and does what is right is welcomed before him. **10:36** You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, proclaiming the good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all) – **10:37** you know what happened throughout Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John announced: **10:38** with respect to Jesus from Nazareth, that God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, because God was with him. **10:39** We are witnesses of all the things he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, **10:40** but God raised him up on the third day and caused him to be seen, **10:41** not by all the people, but by us, the witnesses God had already chosen, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. **10:42** He commanded us to preach to the people and to warn them that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. **10:43** About him all the prophets testify, that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Acts 11 – Peter Defends His Actions to the Jerusalem Church

11:1 Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles too had accepted the word of God. **11:2** So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers took issue with him, **11:3** saying, "You went to uncircumcised men and shared a meal with them." **11:4** But Peter began and explained it to them point by point, saying, **11:5** "I was in the city of Joppa **praying**, and in a trance I saw a vision, an object something like a large sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came to me. **11:6** As I stared I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, reptiles, and wild birds. **11:7** I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; slaughter and eat!' **11:8** But I said, 'Certainly not, Lord, for nothing defiled or ritually unclean has ever entered my mouth!' **11:9** But the voice replied a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not consider ritually unclean!' **11:10** This happened

Prayer in the New Testament

three times, and then everything was pulled up to heaven again. **11:11** At that very moment, three men sent to me from Caesarea approached the house where we were staying. **11:12** The Spirit told me to accompany them without hesitation. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. **11:13** He informed us how he had seen an angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is called Peter, **11:14** who will speak a message to you by which you and your entire household will be saved.' **11:15** Then as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as he did on us at the beginning. **11:16** And I remembered the word of the Lord, as he used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' **11:17** Therefore if God gave them the same gift as he also gave us after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to hinder God?" **11:18** When they heard this, they ceased their objections and praised God, saying, "So then, God has granted the repentance that leads to life even to the Gentiles."

Acts 12 – James is Killed and Peter Imprisoned

12:1 About that time King Herod laid hands on some from the church to harm them. **12:2** He had James, the brother of John, executed with a sword. **12:3** When he saw that this pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter too. (This took place during the feast of Unleavened Bread.) **12:4** When he had seized him, he put him in prison, handing him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him. Herod planned to bring him out for public trial after the Passover. **12:5** So Peter was kept in prison, but those in the church were earnestly **praying** to God for him. **12:6** On that very night before Herod was going to bring him out for trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. **12:7** Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the prison cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly!" And the chains fell off Peter's wrists. **12:8** The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." Peter did so. Then the angel said to him, "Put on your cloak and follow me." **12:9** Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening through the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. **12:10** After they had passed the first and second guards, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went outside and walked down one narrow street, when at once the angel left him. **12:11** When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from everything the Jewish people were expecting to happen."

12:12 When Peter realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John Mark, where many people had gathered together and were **praying**. **12:13** When he knocked at the door of the outer gate, a slave girl named Rhoda answered. **12:14** When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she did not open the gate, but ran back in and told them that Peter was standing at the gate. **12:15** But they said to her, "You've lost your mind!" But she kept insisting that it was Peter, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" **12:16** Now Peter continued knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were greatly astonished. **12:17** He motioned to them with his hand to be quiet and then related how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. He said, "Tell James and the brothers these things," and then he left and went to another place.

Acts 13 – The Church at Antioch Commissions Barnabas and Saul

13:1 Now there were these prophets and teachers in the church at Antioch: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius the Cyrenian, Manaen (a close friend of Herod the tetrarch from childhood) and Saul. **13:2** While they were serving the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." **13:3** Then, after they had fasted and **prayed** and placed their hands on them, they sent them off.

Prayer in the New Testament

Acts 14 – Paul and Barnabas Return to Antioch in Syria

14:21 After they had proclaimed the good news in that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, to Iconium, and to Antioch. **14:22** They strengthened the souls of the disciples and encouraged them to continue in the faith, saying, “We must enter the kingdom of God through many persecutions.” **14:23** When they had appointed elders for them in the various churches, with prayer and fasting they entrusted them to the protection of the Lord in whom they had believed. **14:24** Then they passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia, **14:25** and when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. **14:26** From there they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. **14:27** When they arrived and gathered the church together, they reported all the things God had done with them, and that he had opened a door of faith for the Gentiles. **14:28** So they spent considerable time with the disciples.

Acts 15 – Paul and Barnabas Part Company

15:36 After some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let’s return and visit the brothers in every town where we proclaimed the word of the Lord to see how they are doing.” **15:37** Barnabas wanted to bring John called Mark along with them too, **15:38** but Paul insisted that they should not take along this one who had left them in Pamphylia and had not accompanied them in the work. **15:39** They had a sharp disagreement, so that they parted company. Barnabas took along Mark and sailed away to Cyprus, **15:40** but Paul chose Silas and set out, commended to the grace of the Lord by the brothers and sisters. **15:41** He passed through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

A similar prayer of commendation occurs in Acts 14:26.

Acts 16 – Arrival at Philippi

16:11 We put out to sea from Troas and sailed a straight course to Samothrace, the next day to Neapolis, **16:12** and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of that district of Macedonia, a Roman colony. We stayed in this city for some days. **16:13** On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate to the side of the river, where we thought there would be a place of prayer, and we sat down and began to speak to the women who had assembled there. **16:14** A woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, a God-fearing woman, listened to us. The Lord opened her heart to respond to what Paul was saying. **16:15** After she and her household were baptized, she urged us, “If you consider me to be a believer in the Lord, come and stay in my house.” And she persuaded us.

Acts 16 – Paul and Silas Are Thrown Into Prison

16:16 Now as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave girl met us who had a spirit that enabled her to foretell the future by supernatural means. She brought her owners a great profit by fortune-telling. **16:17** She followed behind Paul and us and kept crying out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation.” **16:18** She continued to do this for many days. But Paul became greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!” And it came out of her at once. **16:19** But when her owners saw their hope of profit was gone, they seized

Prayer in the New Testament

Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. **16:20** When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are throwing our city into confusion. They are Jews **16:21** and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us to accept or practice, since we are Romans.”

16:22 The crowd joined the attack against them, and the magistrates tore the clothes off Paul and Silas and ordered them to be beaten with rods. **16:23** After they had beaten them severely, they threw them into prison and commanded the jailer to guard them securely. **16:24** Receiving such orders, he threw them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

16:25 About midnight Paul and Silas were **praying** and singing hymns to God, and the rest of the prisoners were listening to them. **16:26** Suddenly a great earthquake occurred, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. Immediately all the doors flew open, and the bonds of all the prisoners came loose. **16:27** When the jailer woke up and saw the doors of the prison standing open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he assumed the prisoners had escaped. **16:28** But Paul called out loudly, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!” **16:29** Calling for lights, the jailer rushed in and fell down trembling at the feet of Paul and Silas. **16:30** Then he brought them outside and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” **16:31** They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household.” **16:32** Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him, along with all those who were in his house. **16:33** At that hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and all his family were baptized right away. **16:34** The jailer brought them into his house and set food before them, and he rejoiced greatly that he had come to believe in God, together with his entire household. **16:35** At daybreak the magistrates sent their police officers, saying, “Release those men.” **16:36** The jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, “The magistrates have sent orders to release you. So come out now and go in peace.” **16:37** But Paul said to the police officers, “They had us beaten in public without a proper trial – even though we are Roman citizens – and they threw us in prison. And now they want to send us away secretly? Absolutely not! They themselves must come and escort us out!” **16:38** The police officers reported these words to the magistrates. They were frightened when they heard Paul and Silas were Roman citizens **16:39** and came and apologized to them. After they brought them out, they asked them repeatedly to leave the city. **16:40** When they came out of the prison, they entered Lydia’s house, and when they saw the brothers, they encouraged them and then departed.

Acts 20 – From “The Voyage To Miletus”

20:36 When he had said these things, he knelt down with them all and **prayed**. **20:37** They all began to weep loudly, and hugged Paul and kissed him, **20:38** especially saddened by what he had said, that they were not going to see him again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

Acts 21 – Paul’s Journey to Jerusalem

21:1 After we tore ourselves away from them, we put out to sea, and sailing a straight course, we came to Cos, on the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. **21:2** We found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, went aboard, and put out to sea. **21:3** After we sighted Cyprus and left it behind on our port side, we sailed on to Syria and put in at Tyre, because the ship was to unload its cargo there. **21:4** After we located the disciples, we stayed there seven days. They repeatedly told Paul through the Spirit not to set foot in Jerusalem. **21:5** When our time was over, we left and went on our way. All of them, with their wives and children, accompanied us outside of the city. After kneeling down on the beach and **praying**, **21:6** we said farewell to one another. Then we went aboard the ship, and they returned to their own homes. **21:7** We continued the voyage from Tyre and arrived at Ptolemais, and when we had greeted the brothers, we stayed with them for one day. **21:8** On the next day we left

Prayer in the New Testament

and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. **21:9** (He had four unmarried daughters who prophesied.)

Acts 22 – A recounting by Paul of his conversion during “Paul's Defense”

22:12 A man named Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who live there, **22:13** came to me and stood beside me and said to me, ‘Brother Saul, regain your sight!’ And at that very moment I looked up and saw him. **22:14** Then he said, ‘The God of our ancestors has already chosen you to know his will, to see the Righteous One, and to hear a command from his mouth, **22:15** because you will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard. **22:16** And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on his name.’ **22:17** When I returned to Jerusalem and was **praying** in the temple, I fell into a trance **22:18** and saw the Lord saying to me, ‘Hurry and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ **22:19** I replied, ‘Lord, they themselves know that I imprisoned and beat those in the various synagogues who believed in you. **22:20** And when the blood of your witness Stephen was shed, I myself was standing nearby, approving, and guarding the cloaks of those who were killing him.’ **22:21** Then he said to me, ‘Go, because I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’”

Acts 26 – From “Paul Offers His Defense”

26:24 As Paul was saying these things in his defense, Festus exclaimed loudly, “You have lost your mind, Paul! Your great learning is driving you insane!” **26:25** But Paul replied, “I have not lost my mind, most excellent Festus, but am speaking true and rational words. **26:26** For the king knows about these things, and I am speaking freely to him, because I cannot believe that any of these things has escaped his notice, for this was not done in a corner. **26:27** Do you believe the prophets, King Agrippa? I know that you believe.” **26:28** Agrippa said to Paul, “In such a short time are you persuading me to become a Christian?” **26:29** Paul replied, “I **pray** to God that whether in a short or a long time not only you but also all those who are listening to me today could become such as I am, except for these chains.”

26:30 So the king got up, and with him the governor and Bernice and those sitting with them, **26:31** and as they were leaving they said to one another, “This man is not doing anything deserving death or imprisonment.” **26:32** Agrippa said to Festus, “This man could have been released if he had not appealed to Caesar.”

Acts 27 – From “Caught in a Violent Storm”

27:27 When the fourteenth night had come, while we were being driven across the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors suspected they were approaching some land. **27:28** They took soundings and found the water was twenty fathoms deep; when they had sailed a little farther they took soundings again and found it was fifteen fathoms deep. **27:29** **Because they were afraid that we would run aground on the rocky coast, they threw out four anchors from the stern and wished [prayed] for day to appear.** **27:30** Then when the sailors tried to escape from the ship and were lowering the ship’s boat into the sea, pretending that they were going to put out anchors from the bow, **27:31** Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, “Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved.” **27:32** Then the soldiers cut the ropes of the ship’s boat and let it drift away.

Prayer in the New Testament

Acts 28 – From “Paul On Malta”

28:7 Now in the region around that place were fields belonging to the chief official of the island, named Publius, who welcomed us and entertained us hospitably as guests for three days. **28:8** The father of Publius lay sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and after **praying**, placed his hands on him and healed him. **28:9** After this had happened, many of the people on the island who were sick also came and were healed. **28:10** They also bestowed many honors, and when we were preparing to sail, they gave us all the supplies we needed.



Romans

Romans 1 – Paul’s Desire to Visit Rome

1:8 First of all, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the whole world. **1:9** For God, whom I serve in my spirit by preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness that I continually remember you **1:10** and I always ask in my **prayers**, if perhaps now at last I may succeed in visiting you according to the will of God. **1:11** For I long to see you, so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, **1:12** that is, that we may be mutually comforted by one another’s faith, both yours and mine.

Romans 8 – **Prayer and the Holy Spirit**

8:18 For I consider that our present sufferings cannot even be compared to the glory that will be revealed to us. **8:19** For the creation eagerly waits for the revelation of the sons of God. **8:20** For the creation was subjected to futility – not willingly but because of God who subjected it – in hope **8:21** that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of God’s children. **8:22** For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers together until now. **8:23** Not only this, but we ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we eagerly await our adoption, the redemption of our bodies. **8:24** For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he sees? **8:25** But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with endurance.

8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how we should **pray**, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings. **8:27** And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes on behalf of the saints according to God’s will. **8:28** And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose, **8:29** because those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. **8:30** And those he predestined, he also called; and those

Prayer in the New Testament

he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he also glorified.

8:31 What then shall we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 10 – Prayer for Salvation for Fellow Israelites

10:1 Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and **prayer** to God on behalf of my fellow Israelites is for their salvation. **10:2** For I can testify that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not in line with the truth. **10:3** For ignoring the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking instead to establish their own righteousness, they did not submit to God's righteousness. **10:4** For Christ is the end of the law, with the result that there is righteousness for everyone who believes.

Romans 10 – From “Righteousness That Is By The Law”

10:11 For the scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” **10:12** For there is no distinction between the Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord is Lord of all, who richly blesses all who call on him. **10:13** For **everyone who calls** on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

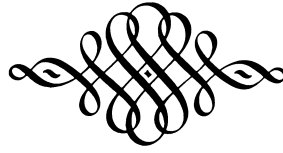
Romans 12 – Conduct in Love

12:9 Love must be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil, cling to what is good. **12:10** Be devoted to one another with mutual love, showing eagerness in honoring one another. **12:11** Do not lag in zeal, be enthusiastic in spirit, serve the Lord. **12:12** Rejoice in hope, endure in suffering, persist in **prayer**. **12:13** Contribute to the needs of the saints, pursue hospitality. **12:14** Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse. **12:15** Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. **12:16** Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly. Do not be conceited. **12:17** Do not repay anyone evil for evil; consider what is good before all people. **12:18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all people. **12:19** Do not avenge yourselves, dear friends, but give place to God's wrath, for it is written, “*Vengeance is mine, I will repay,*” says the Lord. **12:20** Rather, *if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in doing this you will be heaping burning coals on his head.* **12:21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 15 – From “Paul's Intention of Visiting the Romans”

15:30 Now I urge you, brothers and sisters, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to join fervently with me in **prayer** to God on my behalf. **15:31** **Pray** that I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea and that my ministry in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, **15:32** so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. **15:33** Now may the God of peace be with all of you. Amen.

Prayer in the New Testament



1st Corinthians

1st Corinthians 7 – Celibacy and Marriage

7:1 Now with regard to the issues you wrote about: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.” **7:2** But because of immoralities, each man should have relations with his own wife and each woman with her own husband. **7:3** A husband should give to his wife her sexual rights, and likewise a wife to her husband. **7:4** It is not the wife who has the rights to her own body, but the husband. In the same way, it is not the husband who has the rights to his own body, but the wife. **7:5** Do not deprive each other, except by mutual agreement for a specified time, so that you may devote yourselves to **prayer**. Then resume your relationship, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. **7:6** I say this as a concession, not as a command. **7:7** I wish that everyone was as I am. But each has his own gift from God, one this way, another that.

1st Corinthians 11 – Men's and Women's Head Coverings

11:2 I praise you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions just as I passed them on to you. **11:3** But I want you to know that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. **11:4** Any man who **prays** or prophesies with his head covered disgraces his head. **11:5** But any woman who **prays** or prophesies with her head uncovered disgraces her head, for it is one and the same thing as having a shaved head. **11:6** For if a woman will not cover her head, she should cut off her hair. But if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, she should cover her head. **11:7** For a man should not have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God. But the woman is the glory of the man. **11:8** For man did not come from woman, but woman from man. **11:9** Neither was man created for the sake of woman, but woman for man. **11:10** For this reason a woman should have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels. **11:11** In any case, in the Lord woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. **11:12** For just as woman came from man, so man comes through woman. But all things come from God. **11:13** Judge for yourselves: Is it proper for a woman to **pray** to God with her head uncovered? **11:14** Does not nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace for him, **11:15** but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering. **11:16** If anyone intends to quarrel about this, we have no other practice, nor do the churches of God.

1st Corinthians 14 – From “Prophecy and Tongues”

14:13 So then, one who speaks in a tongue should **pray** that he may interpret. **14:14** If I **pray** in a tongue, my spirit **prays**, but my mind is unproductive. **14:15** What should I do? I will **pray** with my spirit, but I will also **pray** with my mind. I will sing praises with my spirit, but I will also sing praises with my mind. **14:16** Otherwise, if you are praising God with your spirit, how can someone without the gift say “Amen” to your thanksgiving,

Prayer in the New Testament

since he does not know what you are saying? **14:17** For you are certainly giving thanks well, but the other person is not strengthened. **14:18** I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you, **14:19** but in the church I want to speak five words with my mind to instruct others, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.



2nd Corinthians

2nd Corinthians 1 – Thanksgiving for God’s Comfort

1:3 Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, **1:4** who comforts us in all our troubles so that we may be able to comfort those experiencing any trouble with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. **1:5** For just as the sufferings of Christ overflow toward us, so also our comfort through Christ overflows to you. **1:6** But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort that you experience in your patient endurance of the same sufferings that we also suffer. **1:7** And our hope for you is steadfast because we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you will share in our comfort. **1:8** For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, regarding the affliction that happened to us in the province of Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of living. **1:9** Indeed we felt as if the sentence of death had been passed against us, so that we would not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead. **1:10** He delivered us from so great a risk of death, and he will deliver us. We have set our hope on him that he will deliver us yet again, **1:11** as you also join in helping us by **prayer**, so that many people may give thanks to God on our behalf for the gracious gift given to us through the help of many.

2nd Corinthians 9 – From “Preparing the Gift”

9:6 My point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. **9:7** Each one of you should give just as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, because God loves a cheerful giver. **9:8** And God is able to make all grace overflow to you so that because you have enough of everything in every way at all times, you will overflow in every good work. **9:9** Just as it is written, “*He has scattered widely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness remains forever.*” **9:10** Now God who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your supply of seed and will cause the harvest of your righteousness to grow. **9:11** You will be enriched in every way so that you may be generous on every occasion, which is producing through us thanksgiving to God, **9:12** because the service of this ministry is not only providing for the needs of the saints but is also overflowing with many thanks to God. **9:13** Through the evidence of this service they will glorify God because of your obedience to your confession in the gospel of Christ and the generosity of your sharing with them and with everyone. **9:14** And in their **prayers** on your behalf they long for you because of the extraordinary grace God has shown to you.

Prayer in the New Testament

9:15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

2nd Corinthians 11 – The Lord’s Supper

11:17 Now in giving the following instruction I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse. **11:18** For in the first place, when you come together as a church I hear there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it. **11:19** For there must in fact be divisions among you, so that those of you who are approved may be evident. **11:20** Now when you come together at the same place, you are not really eating the Lord’s Supper. **11:21** For when it is time to eat, everyone proceeds with his own supper. One is hungry and another becomes drunk. **11:22** Do you not have houses so that you can eat and drink? Or are you trying to show contempt for the church of God by shaming those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I praise you? I will not praise you for this!

11:23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night in which he was betrayed took bread, **11:24** and after he had given thanks he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **11:25** In the same way, he also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, every time you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **11:26** For every time you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

11:27 For this reason, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. **11:28** A person should examine himself first, and in this way let him eat the bread and drink of the cup. **11:29** For the one who eats and drinks without careful regard for the body eats and drinks judgment against himself. **11:30** That is why many of you are weak and sick, and quite a few are dead. **11:31** But if we examined ourselves, we would not be judged. **11:32** But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned with the world. **11:33** So then, my brothers and sisters, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. **11:34** If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so that when you assemble it does not lead to judgment. I will give directions about other matters when I come.

See Matthew 26:26-42 (The Lord’s Supper), Mark 14:22-26 (The Lord’s Supper), Luke 22:14-20 (The Lord’s Supper).

2nd Corinthians 12 – From “Paul’s Thorn in the Flesh”

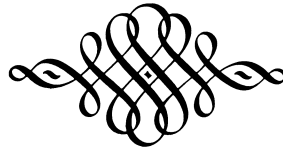
12:7... Therefore, so that I would not become arrogant, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to trouble me – so that I would not become arrogant. **12:8** I asked the Lord three times about this, that it would depart from me. **12:9** But he said to me, “My grace is enough for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”...

2nd Corinthians 13 – Paul’s Third Visit to Corinth

13:1 This is the third time I am coming to visit you. *By the testimony of two or three witnesses every matter will be established.* **13:2** I said before when I was present the second time and now, though absent, I say again to those who sinned previously and to all the rest, that if I come again, I will not spare anyone, **13:3** since you are demanding proof that Christ is speaking through me. He is not weak toward you but is powerful among you. **13:4** For indeed he was crucified by reason of weakness, but he lives because of God’s power. For we also are weak in him, but we will live together with him, because of God’s power toward you. **13:5** Put yourselves to the test to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize regarding yourselves that

Prayer in the New Testament

Jesus Christ is in you – unless, indeed, you fail the test! **13:6** And I hope that you will realize that we have not failed the test! **13:7** Now we **pray** to God that you may not do anything wrong, not so that we may appear to have passed the test, but so that you may do what is right even if we may appear to have failed the test. **13:8** For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the sake of the truth. **13:9** For we rejoice whenever we are weak, but you are strong. And we **pray** for this: that you may become fully qualified. **13:10** Because of this I am writing these things while absent, so that when I arrive I may not have to deal harshly with you by using my authority – the Lord gave it to me for building up, not for tearing down!



Ephesians

Ephesians 1 – **Prayer** for Wisdom and Revelation

1:15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, **1:16** I do not cease to give thanks for you when I remember you in my **prayers**. **1:17** I **pray** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you spiritual wisdom and revelation in your growing knowledge of him, **1:18** – since the eyes of your heart have been enlightened – so that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what is the wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints, **1:19** and what is the incomparable greatness of his power toward us who believe, as displayed in the exercise of his immense strength. **1:20** This power he exercised in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms **1:21** far above every rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. **1:22** And God *put all things under Christ's feet*, and he gave him to the church as head over all things. **1:23** Now the church is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 2 – From “New Life Corporately”

2:14 For he is our peace, the one who made both groups into one and who destroyed the middle wall of partition, the hostility, **2:15** when he nullified in his flesh the law of commandments in decrees. He did this to create in himself one new man out of two, thus making peace, **2:16** and to reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by which the hostility has been killed. **2:17** And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near, **2:18** so that through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. **2:19** So then you are no longer foreigners and noncitizens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of God's household, **2:20** because you have been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. **2:21** In him the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, **2:22** in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Prayer in the New Testament

Ephesians 3 – From “Paul’s Relationship to the Divine Mystery”

3:7 I became a servant of this gospel according to the gift of God’s grace that was given to me by the exercise of his power. **3:8** To me – less than the least of all the saints – this grace was given, to proclaim to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ **3:9** and to enlighten everyone about God’s secret plan – a secret that has been hidden for ages in God who has created all things. **3:10** The purpose of this enlightenment is that through the church the multifaceted wisdom of God should now be disclosed to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly realms. **3:11** This was according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, **3:12** in whom we have boldness and **confident access to God** because of Christ’s faithfulness. **3:13** For this reason I ask you not to lose heart because of what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Ephesians 3 – Prayer for Strengthened Love

3:14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, **3:15** from whom every family in heaven and on the earth is named. **3:16** I **pray** that according to the wealth of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner person, **3:17** that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, so that, because you have been rooted and grounded in love, **3:18** you may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, **3:19** and thus to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

3:20 Now to him who by the power that is working within us is able to do far beyond all that we ask or think, **3:21** to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Paul's letters typically conclude with a benediction. I have ordinarily not included them unless there is other text that immediately preceded that prayer.

Ephesians 6 – Exhortations for Spiritual Warfare

6:10 Finally, be strengthened in the Lord and in the strength of his power. **6:11** Clothe yourselves with the full armor of God so that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. **6:12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. **6:13** For this reason, take up the full armor of God so that you may be able to stand your ground on the evil day, and having done everything, to stand. **6:14** Stand firm therefore, by fastening the belt of truth around your waist, by putting on the breastplate of righteousness, **6:15** by fitting your feet with the preparation that comes from the good news of peace, **6:16** and in all of this, by taking up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **6:17** And take *the helmet of salvation* and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **6:18** With every **prayer** and petition, **pray** at all times in the Spirit, and to this end be alert, with all perseverance and requests for all the saints. **6:19** **Pray** for me also, that I may be given the message when I begin to speak – that I may confidently make known the mystery of the gospel, **6:20** for which I am an ambassador in chains. **Pray** that I may be able to speak boldly as I ought to speak.

Prayer in the New Testament



Philippians

Philippians 1 – Prayer for the Church

1:3 I thank my God every time I remember you. **1:4** I always pray with joy in my every prayer for all of you **1:5** because of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. **1:6** For I am sure of this very thing, that the one who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. **1:7** For it is right for me to think this about all of you, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel all of you became partners in God's grace together with me. **1:8** For God is my witness that I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. **1:9** And I pray this, that your love may abound even more and more in knowledge and every kind of insight **1:10** so that you can decide what is best, and thus be sincere and blameless for the day of Christ, **1:11** filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1 – Ministry as a Prisoner

1:12 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that my situation has actually turned out to advance the gospel: **1:13** The whole imperial guard and everyone else knows that I am in prison for the sake of Christ, **1:14** and most of the brothers and sisters, having confidence in the Lord because of my imprisonment, now more than ever dare to speak the word fearlessly.

1:15 Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from goodwill. **1:16** The latter do so from love because they know that I am placed here for the defense of the gospel. **1:17** The former proclaim Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, because they think they can cause trouble for me in my imprisonment. **1:18** What is the result? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is being proclaimed, and in this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, **1:19** for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. **1:20** My confident hope is that I will in no way be ashamed but that with complete boldness, even now as always, Christ will be exalted in my body, whether I live or die. **1:21** For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. **1:22** Now if I am to go on living in the body, this will mean productive work for me, yet I don't know which I prefer: **1:23** I feel torn between the two, because I have a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far, **1:24** but it is more vital for your sake that I remain in the body. **1:25** And since I am sure of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for the sake of your progress and joy in the faith, **1:26** so that what you can be proud of may increase because of me in Christ Jesus, when I come back to you.

1:27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ so that – whether I come and see you or whether I remain absent – I should hear that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, by contending side by side for the faith of the gospel, **1:28** and by not being intimidated in any way by your

Prayer in the New Testament

opponents. This is a sign of their destruction, but of your salvation – a sign which is from God. **1:29** For it has been granted to you not only to believe in Christ but also to suffer for him, **1:30** since you are encountering the same conflict that you saw me face and now hear that I am facing.

Philippians 4 – Christian Practices

4:1 So then, my brothers and sisters, dear friends whom I long to see, my joy and crown, stand in the Lord in this way, my dear friends!

4:2 I appeal to Euodia and to Syntyche to agree in the Lord. **4:3** Yes, I say also to you, true companion, help them. They have struggled together in the gospel ministry along with me and Clement and my other coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. **4:4** Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice! **4:5** Let everyone see your gentleness. The Lord is near! **4:6** Do not be anxious about anything. Instead, **in every situation, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, tell your requests to God.** **4:7** And the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

4:8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is worthy of respect, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if something is excellent or praiseworthy, think about these things. **4:9** And what you learned and received and heard and saw in me, do these things. And the God of peace will be with you.



Colossians

Colossians 1 – Paul’s Thanksgiving and Prayer for the Church

1:3 We always give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we **pray** for you, **1:4** since we heard about your faith in Christ Jesus and the love that you have for all the saints. **1:5** Your faith and love have arisen from the hope laid up for you in heaven, which you have heard about in the message of truth, the gospel **1:6** that has come to you. Just as in the entire world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, so it has also been bearing fruit and growing among you from the first day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth. **1:7** You learned the gospel from Epaphras, our dear fellow slave – a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf – **1:8** who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

Colossians 1 – Paul’s Prayer for the Growth of the Church

1:9 For this reason we also, from the day we heard about you, have not ceased **praying** for you and

Prayer in the New Testament

asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, **1:10** so that you may live worthily of the Lord and please him in all respects – bearing fruit in every good deed, growing in the knowledge of God, **1:11** being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might for the display of all patience and steadfastness, joyfully **1:12** giving thanks to the Father who has qualified you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light. **1:13** He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son he loves, **1:14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 4 – Exhortation to **Pray for the Success of Paul's Mission**

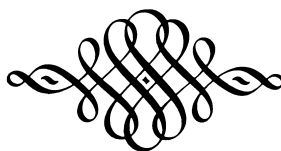
4:2 Be devoted to **prayer**, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. **4:3** At the same time **pray** for us too, that God may open a door for the message so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. **4:4** **Pray** that I may make it known as I should. **4:5** Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunities. **4:6** Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer everyone.

Colossians 4 – Personal Greetings and Instructions

4:7 Tychicus, a dear brother, faithful minister, and fellow slave in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me. **4:8** I sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are doing and that he may encourage your hearts. **4:9** I sent him with Onesimus, the faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.

4:10 Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, sends you greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions; if he comes to you, welcome him). **4:11** And Jesus who is called Justus also sends greetings. In terms of Jewish converts, these are the only fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. **4:12** Epaphras, who is one of you and a slave of Christ, greets you. He is always struggling in **prayer** on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. **4:13** For I can testify that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and Hierapolis. **4:14** Our dear friend Luke the physician and Demas greet you. **4:15** Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters who are in Laodicea and to Nympha and the church that meets in her house. **4:16** And after you have read this letter, have it read to the church of Laodicea. In turn, read the letter from Laodicea as well. **4:17** And tell Archippus, “See to it that you complete the ministry you received in the Lord.”

4:18 I, Paul, write this greeting by my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.



1st Thessalonians

Prayer in the New Testament

1st Thessalonians 1 – Thanksgiving for Response to the Gospel

1:2 We thank God always for all of you as we mention you constantly in our prayers, **1:3** because we recall in the presence of our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and endurance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. **1:4** We know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, **1:5** in that our gospel did not come to you merely in words, but in power and in the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction (surely you recall the character we displayed when we came among you to help you).

1st Thessalonians 3 – From “Forced Absence from Thessalonica”

3:6 But now Timothy has come to us from you and given us the good news of your faith and love and that you always think of us with affection and long to see us just as we also long to see you! **3:7** So in all our distress and affliction, we were reassured about you, brothers and sisters, through your faith. **3:8** For now we are alive again, if you stand firm in the Lord. **3:9** For how can we thank God enough for you, for all the joy we feel because of you before our God? **3:10** We pray earnestly night and day to see you in person and make up what may be lacking in your faith.

3:11 Now may God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. **3:12** And may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we do for you, **3:13** so that your hearts are strengthened in holiness to be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

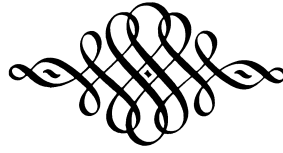
1st Thessalonians 5 – Final Instructions

5:12 Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who labor among you and preside over you in the Lord and admonish you, **5:13** and to esteem them most highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. **5:14** And we urge you, brothers and sisters, admonish the undisciplined, comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient toward all. **5:15** See that no one pays back evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good for one another and for all. **5:16** Always rejoice, **5:17** constantly pray, **5:18** in everything give thanks. For this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. **5:19** Do not extinguish the Spirit. **5:20** Do not treat prophecies with contempt. **5:21** But examine all things; hold fast to what is good. **5:22** Stay away from every form of evil.

1st Thessalonians 5 – Conclusion

5:23 Now may the God of peace himself make you completely holy and may your spirit and soul and body be kept entirely blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **5:24** He who calls you is trustworthy, and he will in fact do this. **5:25** Brothers and sisters, pray for us too. **5:26** Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. **5:27** I call on you solemnly in the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers and sisters. **5:28** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Prayer in the New Testament



2nd Thessalonians

2nd Thessalonians 1 – Encouragement in Persecution

1:5 This is evidence of God's righteous judgment, to make you worthy of the kingdom of God, for which in fact you are suffering. **1:6** For it is right for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, **1:7** and to you who are being afflicted to give rest together with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels. **1:8** *With flaming fire he will mete out punishment on those who do not know God* and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **1:9** They will undergo the penalty of eternal destruction, *away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his strength*, **1:10** when he comes to be glorified among his saints and admired on that day among all who have believed – and you did in fact believe our testimony. **1:11** And in this regard we **pray** for you always, that our God will make you worthy of his calling and fulfill by his power your every desire for goodness and every work of faith, **1:12** that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

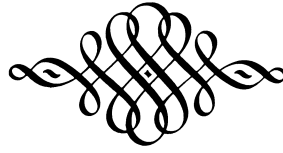
2nd Thessalonians 2 – Call to Stand Firm

2:13 But we ought to **thank** God always for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. **2:14** He called you to this salvation through our gospel, so that you may possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **2:15** Therefore, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold on to the traditions that we taught you, whether by speech or by letter. **2:16** Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, **2:17** encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good thing you do or say.

2nd Thessalonians 3 – Request for **Prayer**

3:1 Finally, **pray** for us, brothers and sisters, that the Lord's message may spread quickly and be honored as in fact it was among you, **3:2** and that we may be delivered from perverse and evil people. For not all have faith. **3:3** But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. **3:4** And we are confident about you in the Lord that you are both doing – and will do – what we are commanding. **3:5** Now may the Lord direct your hearts toward the love of God and the endurance of Christ.

Prayer in the New Testament



1st Timothy

1st Timothy 2 – Prayer for All People

2:1 First of all, then, I urge that requests, **prayers**, intercessions, and thanks be offered on behalf of all people, **2:2** even for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. **2:3** Such **prayer** for all is good and welcomed before God our Savior, **2:4** since he wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. **2:5** For there is one God and one intermediary between God and humanity, Christ Jesus, himself human, **2:6** who gave himself as a ransom for all, revealing God's purpose at his appointed time. **2:7** For this I was appointed a preacher and apostle – I am telling the truth; I am not lying – and a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. **2:8** So I want the men to **pray** in every place, lifting up holy hands without anger or dispute.

1st Timothy 4 – Timothy's Ministry in the Later Times

4:1 Now the Spirit explicitly says that in the later times some will desert the faith and occupy themselves with deceiving spirits and demonic teachings, **4:2** influenced by the hypocrisy of liars whose consciences are seared. **4:3** They will prohibit marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. **4:4** For every creation of God is good and no food is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving. **4:5** For it is sanctified by God's word and by **prayer**.

1st Timothy 5 – Instructions about Specific Groups

5:1 Do not address an older man harshly but appeal to him as a father. Speak to younger men as brothers, **5:2** older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters – with complete purity.

5:3 Honor widows who are truly in need. **5:4** But if a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn to fulfill their duty toward their own household and so repay their parents what is owed them. For this is what pleases God. **5:5** But the widow who is truly in need, and completely on her own, has set her hope on God and continues in her pleas and **prayers** night and day. **5:6** But the one who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives.

Prayer in the New Testament



2nd Timothy

2nd Timothy 1 – Thanksgiving and Charge to Timothy

1:3 I am thankful to God, whom I have served with a clear conscience as my ancestors did, when I remember you in my **prayers** as I do constantly night and day. **1:4** As I remember your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. **1:5** I recall your sincere faith that was alive first in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice, and I am sure is in you.

2nd Timothy 1 – From “Thanksgiving and Charge to Timothy”

1:15 You know that everyone in the province of Asia deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. **1:16** **May the Lord grant mercy to the family of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my imprisonment.** **1:17** But when he arrived in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me. **1:18** May the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that day! And you know very well all the ways he served me in Ephesus.



Philemon

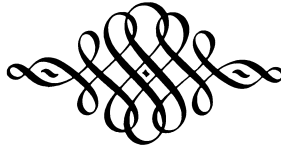
Philemon – Thanks for Philemon’s Love and Faith

4 I always thank my God as I remember you in my **prayers**, **5** because I hear of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. **6** I **pray** that the faith you share with us may deepen your understanding of every blessing that belongs to you in Christ. **7** I have had great joy and encouragement because of your love, for the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

Prayer in the New Testament

Philemon – From “Paul’s Request for Onesimus”

19 I, Paul, have written this letter with my own hand: I will repay it. I could also mention that you owe me your very self. **20** Yes, brother, let me have some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. **21** Since I was confident that you would obey, I wrote to you, because I knew that you would do even more than what I am asking you to do. **22** At the same time also, prepare a place for me to stay, for I hope that through your **prayers** I will be given back to you.



Hebrews

Hebrews 4 – Jesus Our Compassionate High Priest

4:14 Therefore since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. **4:15** For we do not have a high priest incapable of sympathizing with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way just as we are, yet without sin. **4:16** Therefore let us **confidently approach** the throne of grace to receive mercy and find grace whenever we need help.

Hebrews 5 – From “The Order of Melchizedek”

5:7 During his earthly life **Christ offered both requests and supplications**, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death and he was heard because of his devotion. **5:8** Although he was a son, he learned obedience through the things he suffered. **5:9** And by being perfected in this way, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, **5:10** and he was designated by God as high priest ***in the order of Melchizedek***.

Hebrews 10 – Drawing Near to God in Enduring Faith

10:19 Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have **confidence to enter the sanctuary** by the blood of Jesus, **10:20** by the fresh and living way that he inaugurated for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, **10:21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **10:22** let us **draw near** with a sincere heart in the assurance that faith brings, because we have had our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. **10:23** And let us hold unwaveringly to the hope that we confess, for the one who made the promise is trustworthy. **10:24** And let us take thought of how to spur one another on to love and good works, **10:25** not abandoning our own meetings, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and even more so because you see the day drawing near.

Prayer in the New Testament

Hebrews 11 – People Commended for Their Faith

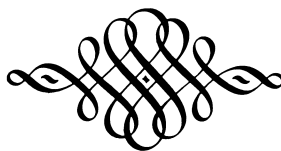
11:1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, being convinced of what we do not see. **11:2** For by it the people of old received God's commendation. **11:3** By faith we understand that the worlds were set in order at God's command, so that the visible has its origin in the invisible. **11:4** By faith Abel offered God a greater sacrifice than Cain, and through his faith he was commended as righteous, because God commended him for his offerings. And through his faith he still speaks, though he is dead. **11:5** By faith Enoch was taken up so that he did not see death, and he was not to be found because God took him up. For before his removal he had been commended as having pleased God. **11:6** Now without faith it is impossible to please him, for the **one who approaches** God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 13 – From “Final Exhortations”

13:15 Through him then let us continually **offer up a sacrifice of praise to God**, that is, the fruit of our lips, acknowledging his name. **13:16** And do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for God is pleased with such sacrifices. **13:17** Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls and will give an account for their work. Let them do this with joy and not with complaints, for this would be no advantage for you. **13:18** **Pray** for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to conduct ourselves rightly in every respect. **13:19** I especially ask you to **pray** that I may be restored to you very soon.

Hebrews 13 – Benediction

13:20 Now may the God of peace who by the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead the great shepherd of the sheep, our Lord Jesus Christ, **13:21** equip you with every good thing to do his will, working in us what is pleasing before him through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever. Amen.



James

James 1 – Joy in Trials

1:2 My brothers and sisters, consider it nothing but joy when you fall into all sorts of trials, **1:3** because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. **1:4** And let endurance have its perfect effect, so that you will be perfect and complete, not deficient in anything. **1:5** But if anyone is deficient in wisdom, **he should ask** God, who gives to all generously and without reprimand, and it will be given to him. **1:6** But he **must ask in**

Prayer in the New Testament

faith without doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed around by the wind. **1:7** For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord, **1:8** since he is a double-minded individual, unstable in all his ways.

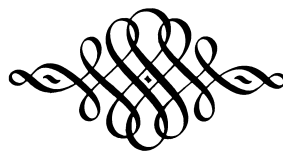
James 4 – Passions and Pride

4:1 Where do the conflicts and where do the quarrels among you come from? Is it not from this, from your passions that battle inside you? **4:2** You desire and you do not have; you murder and envy and you cannot obtain; you quarrel and fight. **You do not have because you do not ask; 4:3 you ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, so you can spend it on your passions. 4:4** ... do you not know that friendship with the world means hostility toward God? So whoever decides to be the world's friend makes himself God's enemy. **4:5** Or do you think the scripture means nothing when it says, "The spirit that God caused to live within us has an envious yearning"? **4:6** But he gives greater grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but he gives grace to the humble." **4:7** So submit to God. But resist the devil and he will flee from you. **4:8 Draw near to God** and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and make your hearts pure, you double-minded. **4:9** Grieve, mourn, and weep. Turn your laughter into mourning and your joy into despair. **4:10** Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will exalt you.

James 5 – Prayer for the Sick

5:13 Is anyone among you suffering? He should **pray**. Is anyone in good spirits? He should sing praises. **5:14** Is anyone among you ill? He should summon the elders of the church, and they should **pray** for him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. **5:15** And the **prayer** of faith will save the one who is sick and the Lord will raise him up – and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. **5:16** So confess your sins to one another and **pray** for one another so that you may be healed. The **prayer** of a righteous person has great effectiveness. **5:17** Elijah was a human being like us, and he **prayed** earnestly that it would not rain and there was no rain on the land for three years and six months! **5:18** Then he **prayed** again, and the sky gave rain and the land sprouted with a harvest.

5:19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone turns him back, **5:20** he should know that the one who turns a sinner back from his wandering path will save that person's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.



1st Peter

Prayer in the New Testament

1st Peter 3 – Wives and Husbands

3:1 In the same way, wives, be subject to your own husbands. Then, even if some are disobedient to the word, they will be won over without a word by the way you live, **3:2** when they see your pure and reverent conduct. **3:3** Let your beauty not be external – the braiding of hair and wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes – **3:4** but the inner person of the heart, the lasting beauty of a gentle and tranquil spirit, which is precious in God’s sight. **3:5** For in the same way the holy women who hoped in God long ago adorned themselves by being subject to their husbands, **3:6** like Sarah who obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. You become her children when you do what is good and have no fear in doing so. **3:7** Husbands, in the same way, treat your wives with consideration as the weaker partners and show them honor as fellow heirs of the grace of life. In this way nothing will hinder your **prayers**.

1st Peter 3 – Suffering for Doing Good

3:8 Finally, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, affectionate, compassionate, and humble. **3:9** Do not return evil for evil or insult for insult, but instead bless others because you were called to inherit a blessing. **3:10** For

the one who wants to love life and see good days
must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from uttering deceit.

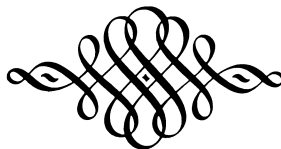
3:11 And he must turn away from evil and do good;
he must seek peace and pursue it.

3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and his ears are open to their **prayer**.
But the Lord’s face is against those who do evil.

3:13 For who is going to harm you if you are devoted to what is good? **3:14** But in fact, if you happen to suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. ***But do not be terrified of them or be shaken.*** **3:15** But set Christ apart as Lord in your hearts and always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks about the hope you possess.

1st Peter 4 – Service, Suffering, and Judgment

4:7 For the culmination of all things is near. So be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of **prayer**. **4:8** Above all keep your love for one another fervent, because ***love covers a multitude of sins.*** **4:9** Show hospitality to one another without complaining. **4:10** Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of the varied grace of God. **4:11** Whoever speaks, let it be with God’s words. Whoever serves, do so with the strength that God supplies, so that in everything God will be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

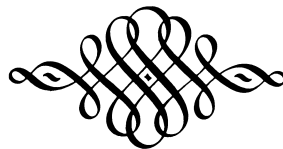


Prayer in the New Testament

2nd Peter

2nd Peter 1 – Believers’ Salvation and the Work of God

1:3 I can **pray** this because his divine power has bestowed on us everything necessary for life and godliness through the rich knowledge of the one who called us by his own glory and excellence. **1:4** Through these things he has bestowed on us his precious and most magnificent promises, so that by means of what was promised you may become partakers of the divine nature, after escaping the worldly corruption that is produced by evil desire. **1:5** For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith excellence, to excellence, knowledge; **1:6** to knowledge, self-control; to self-control, perseverance; to perseverance, godliness; **1:7** to godliness, brotherly affection; to brotherly affection, unselfish love.



1st John

1st John 3 – From “God Is Love, So We Must Love One Another”

3:18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue but in deed and truth. **3:19** And by this we will know that we are of the truth and will convince our conscience in his presence, **3:20** that if our conscience condemns us, that God is greater than our conscience and knows all things. **3:21** Dear friends, if our conscience does not condemn us, we have confidence in the presence of God, **3:22** and **whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do the things that are pleasing to him.** **3:23** Now this is his commandment: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he gave us the commandment. **3:24** And the person who keeps his commandments resides in God, and God in him. Now by this we know that God resides in us: by the Spirit he has given us.

1st John 5 – Assurance of Eternal Life

5:13 I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

5:14 And this is the confidence that we have before him: **that whenever we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.** **5:15** And if we know that he hears us in regard to whatever we ask, then we know that we have the requests that we have asked from him. **5:16** If anyone sees his fellow Christian committing a sin not resulting in death, he should ask, and God will grant life to the person who commits a sin not resulting in death. There is a

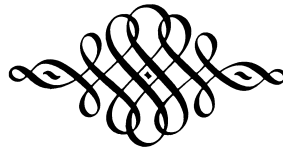
Prayer in the New Testament

sin resulting in death. I do not say that he should ask about that. **5:17** All unrighteousness is sin, but there is sin not resulting in death.

3rd John

3rd John – Introduction and Thanksgiving

1 From the elder, to Gaius my dear brother, whom I love in truth. **2** Dear friend, I **pray** that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul. **3** For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, just as you are living according to the truth. **4** I have no greater joy than this: to hear that my children are living according to the truth.



Jude

Jude – Exhortation to the Faithful

17 But you, dear friends – recall the predictions foretold by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. **18** For they said to you, “In the end time there will come scoffers, propelled by their own ungodly desires.” **19** These people are divisive, worldly, devoid of the Spirit. **20** But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith, by **praying** in the Holy Spirit, **21** maintain yourselves in the love of God, while anticipating the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that brings eternal life. **22** And have mercy on those who waver; **23** save others by snatching them out of the fire; have mercy on others, coupled with a fear of God, hating even the clothes stained by the flesh.



Prayer in the New Testament

Revelation

Revelation 5 – From “The Opening of the Scroll”

5:6 Then I saw standing in the middle of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the middle of the elders, a Lamb that appeared to have been killed. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. **5:7** Then he came and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne, **5:8** and when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders threw themselves to the ground before the Lamb. Each of them had a harp and golden bowls full of incense (which are the **prayers** of the saints). **5:9** They were singing a new song:

“You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals
because you were killed,
and at the cost of your own blood you have purchased for God
persons from every tribe, language, people, and nation.

5:10 You have appointed them as a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

Revelation 8 – The Seventh Seal

8:1 Now when the Lamb opened the seventh seal there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. **8:2** Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. **8:3** Another angel holding a golden censer came and was stationed at the altar. A large amount of incense was given to him to offer up, with the **prayers** of all the saints, on the golden altar that is before the throne. **8:4** The smoke coming from the incense, along with the **prayers** of the saints, ascended before God from the angel’s hand. **8:5** Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it on the earth, and there were crashes of thunder, roaring, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

8:6 Now the seven angels holding the seven trumpets prepared to blow them.

Revelation 22 – From “A Final Reminder”

22:20 The one who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon!” Amen! **Come, Lord Jesus!**
22:21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.

