

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a Bible. The person is wearing a light-colored t-shirt and blue denim jeans. The background is a blurred outdoor setting, possibly a field or a path. The text is overlaid on the image.

PRAYING THE GOSPEL

LIVING PRAYERS ROOTED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Mark 11 1-11

"As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no-one has ever ridden.

Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly'"

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway."

Loving Lord, give me the courage to listen for your directions; to act on your words even when I feel out of my depth in a situation.

I ask that when I speak, the words I say may be your words of authority and love.

Lord, may I be excited about your love, enthusiastic about your power and generous in the time and love that I give back to you.

Guide me in taking the time to choose the right moment to act. Let me be eager and sensible.

Lord God
Pour out your blessings upon your friends.
Equip us to give our whole hearts as a sacrificial offering.
Guide us in our daily living and show us,
In all circumstances,
How to be Holy.

John 15, 26 & 27, John 16, 4-15

"But when he, the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.
All that belongs to the Father is mine."

I pray Lord, for your Holy Spirit to rest upon me;
To change me and guide me into all truth,
bringing Glory to you, My God.

*Cleanse my heart and mind and make them holy
so that I may be free to testify to your love and mercy.
Give me faith and courage
in regard to righteousness.
That I would do your will in every circumstance.*

Change this world in regard to consumerism and greed.
Lord, let its emptiness be seen to fall short of the fullness
and richness of your glory.

*Let the transforming power of Your love be seen in Your Church,
that Your people may know the assurance of Your saving love.*

Of all your gifts, I praise You and thank You for Your Spirit, the
Breath of God which is my life-breath.
You change me from within
and I am changed on the outside.
You inspire me and equip me to love You more.
Your gift of Breath is my Life and my Strength, O God.

Acts 16 9-15

"During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him,
"Come over to Macedonia and help us."

After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them."

Lord, I ask that You would give me a vision.
Even when the journey to do Your will is long and involves many places to pass through and many stops along the way, help me to take courage from Paul's example and not despise the route that I must take.

*Remind me of my need to discover You
in prayer and fellowship
to expect and to discover You in all places.*

Lord, do not let me patronise or look down on those to whom You send me, but allow the Holy Spirit to direct my words and open the hearts of those to whom I am sent.

Continue to work in my life, dear Lord, as I grow and develop along my walk of faith. Meet me with fresh challenges, fresh understanding and fresh love for you.

Bless me that I might bless others on their journey of faith. Let me speak out where I find you and affirm the faith of the faithful.

*Lord, Your love is never limited to a single people or place.
Send me out beyond the gates of comfort, in order that I might discover others at their place of prayer;
And as I go Lord, let it be that I expect to speak your love and declare my faith in You.*

Luke 4 14-21

"He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up,
and on the Sabbath day he
went into the synagogue, as was his custom.
And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet
Isaiah was handed to him."

Lord, help me to value customs and traditions in your Church
and so to celebrate the opportunities which they bring.

*I am sorry that I have been too weak-willed to commit myself to
the things to which You are calling me.
I have failed You in worship, prayer and service.
Lord, Have mercy.*

I ask for greater confidence in my faith to speak aloud the gracious
words which You would give to Your people.
Whoever is listening, Lord, may I always speak Your Word.

*May Your power grow in your Church as we listen to Your voice.
You take our past,
You take our present,
You take our future;
For You have a purpose for each of Your people.
Come, Holy Spirit and lead us on.*

Galatians 2 15-21

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live,
but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body,
I live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave his life for me."

Loving Lord

Enable my faith in you to surpass the pull of my self-sufficiency.

Ignite within me the living flame of faith in Jesus, which I often dampen and try to stamp out.

Fill me afresh with the power of the Holy Spirit. and make me resolute in the pursuit of holiness.

*May my faith in you be a light of hope to others;
a beacon which lights up a path towards you.*

I pray for my Church family.

Increase our faith.

Improve our love.

Give us greater unity.

Revive us, by your Spirit.

Lord, may I never underestimate the depth of your love for all humanity and the nature of the mission to which you call me.

You died that I might have life ...

May I live, with my whole life,

To your praise and glory.

Luke 4 1-13

"Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert, where, for forty days he was tempted by the devil, and at the end of them he was hungry."

You are the God of miracles and wonders.
Your love never leaves me
Your interest in my situation never wavers.
May I honour Your love
by trusting You with day to day concerns.
Your constancy is undoubted;
My faith is weak.

*Come, Holy Spirit and do Your work within me,
that I might be holy.
Make me, in this way, an effective soldier and servant of Christ.*

Forgive me for the weaknesses
which lead me to give in to temptation:
when I have sought to make life easier for myself,
rather than seeking real strength in You.
Help me, in times of weakness,
not to be seduced by power and worldly pursuits.
Save me from the idols which present themselves for worship:
Work; Hobbies; Leisure; Image; Power.

*Strengthen and sustain me,
My Loving Lord and Father;
that I might withstand the assaults against my faith.
Pour out Your Spirit
So to refresh my Soul
In Jesus' Name.*

Luke 13 1-8

""Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year,
and I'll dig round it and fertilise it.
If it bears fruit next year, fine!
If not, then cut it down.'"

Lord Jesus

Thank you that although I have let you down in many ways,
You temper judgement with mercy.

I ask for Your forgiveness with an open and regretful heart
and conscience.

I know that nothing escapes Your notice.

I know that I am not out of the reach of Your love.

I know that I am forgiven.

May my attitude reflect Your grace.

*I pray for those bound up by the cords of guilt which
destroy their hope.*

*For those whom society would write off as 'a waste of space '
Let Your love release them from their bondage to new life
and hope in You.*

I pray for opportunities through which I might grow in faith, for You
seek the fruit which I should bear.

I give You thanks for all who provide me with the nourishment I
need in order to grow.

*God of fruitfulness, come and do such work in my life that I might
look outward with eyes of love and bless a world which seeks food
for its soul.*

1 Timothy 2, 1-7

"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone for kings and all those in authority, that we might live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."

I give you thanks for Your great love for the whole of Your creation and each person in it.

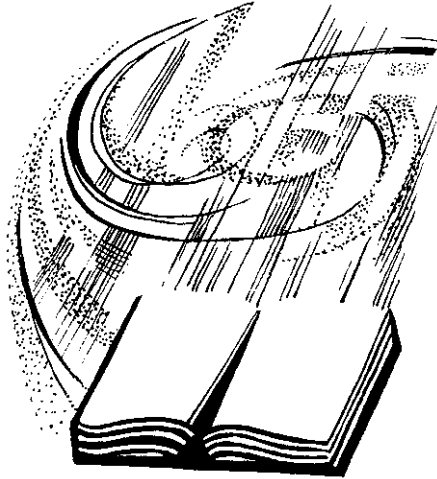
I pray for 'kings, and all those in authority', that You would bring Your heart of compassion to each decision and political manoeuvre.

May my life reflect Your glory in worship, prayer, work and play.

Help me to fully trust in You and so to seek Your will and Your guidance in all things, in the same way that I ask it for others.

Move Your Church to prepare herself for You.
That in all aspects of the Church's life,
She would place herself in sight of Jesus.

I pray a blessing upon the Heralds and Apostles who, without care for worldly consequence, speak the Prophetic Word of God's saving Love and Truth in Jesus Christ to a hostile and disaffected people.



Catherine Hutton

© The Maranatha Community,
102 Irlam Road, Flixton, Manchester M41 6JT
Tel: 0161 748 4858 Fax: 0161 747 7379
Email: info@maranathacommunity.org.uk
www.maranathacommunity.org.uk