

A Crafted Prayer To Start The Day^{1, 2}

Dearest God, holy and victorious Trinity, I come to you now to thank you for giving me your love, your grace, your mercy, your forgiveness, your righteousness, and your wisdom that I so desperately need today. You alone are worthy of all my worship, all my heart's devotion, all my praise, and all my trust. I love you. You have given me both physical and spiritual life. Thank you for coming to live in me and for blessing this time of prayer. You are my redeemer and I belong to you. I renounce every substitute for you. Please show me where I am allowing anything to compete with or to take your place in my life. Please work in me to make the truth of who you are and who I am in you be the way I understand, think, and live. I choose to submit my will to yours. Please give me a clear, focused, wise, and retentive mind so I can be mindful of, understand, feel, and respond to *true* reality as only you can see and reveal it.

Heavenly Father, thank you for loving and choosing me before you made anything. You have known and loved me unconditionally from eternity past and will love me beyond eternity future. I love you. I trust you. I worship you. Thank you for showing your love for me by sending Jesus. You have given me his righteousness and brought me into your family and fellowship. You made me eternally alive in him, established me in his authority, seated me in him at your right hand, and gave me your Spirit. You are my true Father. I repent of trying to control *my* life without you. You are God and I am not. I delight in the other-centered, self-giving love you have for me — for my spirit, mind, will, emotions, and body. Thank you that, in Jesus, I have been made one with you. I receive all you have given me in Jesus with joy, awe, and deep gratitude. Oh, thank you. Thank you. Thank you, my Adonai.

My Jesus, thank you for coming as a human being to ransom me with your own life. I love you. I worship you. I trust you. You have cleansed me from all sin. I am healed by the terrible punishment, suffering, and sacrificial death you allowed us to put you through. Thank you for healing me today in each and every way that *you* know I need your healing touch. I have been ransomed, delivered from the kingdom of darkness, and transferred into your kingdom – the Kingdom of light. Every claim being made against me has been cancelled and nailed to your cross. I take my place now in you, dying with you to sin, to my sin nature, to this world, and to the evil one and his kingdom. My sin nature is being banished and someday will be removed. I renounce my sin nature with all its pride, substitutes, fear, shame, selfishness, unbelief, rebelliousness, impatience, attempts to control, and impure thought-life. Thank you for giving me a new spiritual heart. I take off my old sin nature and put on your gift of a new nature like yours that includes your unconditional self-giving love, hope, holiness, righteousness, faith, joy; your grace, peace, humility,

¹ Based originally on a daily prayer published by John Eldredge.

² This prayer is part of a personal mission statement in the light of who God is and all that He has done for me. I pray that something like this prayer becomes part of your mission statement too. I invite you to use it, change it, and make it your own. A copy of this prayer is available to download at www.luke4-18ministries.org. Yours always in Him, Don Stewart

patience, honesty, kindness, confidence, gentle strength, discipline, righteous anger, trustfulness; your mindfulness, self-control, obedience, empathy, perseverance, goodness, truthfulness; your tenderness, faithfulness, forgiveness, courage, compassion, openness; your integrity, generosity, humor, wisdom, power, passion, and purity. Thank you for giving me a free will. I am not being made into a robot with 'Jesus' software. You are renewing me and changing me from the inside out. Thank you for progressively developing in me and offering to others through me all the amazing wonder of who you are without losing who I am. I receive being more and more like you each day with joy, awe, and thankfulness.

Dear Jesus, thank you for the reality of your resurrection. You have conquered sin, death, and the evil one. You are the way, the truth, the life and the victory. Death has no power over you, nor does any evil thing. I have been raised with you to a new life, to live life in you. I give myself to you as a living sacrifice; spirit, mind, will, emotions, and body. I am saved to live life with you and for you. You experience all that I do because you live in me. You hurt with me when I hurt and laugh with me when I laugh. You use everything to make me more like you. Thank you for allowing me to share in your resurrection life.

Lord Jesus, through your ascension, you brought all who are yours into the love, joy, and fellowship you experience with your Abba and your Holy Spirit. You are both God and a new kind of human being, the kind that I will be someday in your time and in your way. You are above all. You are my authority, rule, and dominion, my everlasting victory over Satan and his kingdom, and my ability to live in and tell others about your Kingdom. All authority in the heavens and on this earth has been given to you, Jesus. You are worthy to receive all glory and honor, power and dominion, now and forever. You have given me authority over all the power of the enemy and everything I need to carry out your will in your name. I take my place now in your authority and in your dominion. I give myself to you to reign in and through me forever.

Dear Holy Spirit, you came at Pentecost to live not just with us but in us. Thank you for coming to live in me. I love you. I worship you. I trust you. You have filled me with your power from on high and sealed me in Jesus. You are my assurance of salvation and the proof of my union with Abba and Jesus. You have promised never to leave me. You are the Spirit of truth in me, the life of God in me, my counselor, my comforter, my source of living water, my strength, and my guide. I honor you as my Lord. I gladly give you every part of my spirit, mind, will, emotions, and body to flood my life with you, to be one with you in all things. Please continue to fill me, dear Holy Spirit, and make me consciously aware of your presence, your revelation, and your specific guidance moment by moment today and each day. Please reveal any area in my understanding where I am deceived or ignorant and lead me into all truth. Please bless and direct my life and ministry today. Thank you for raising up prayer and intercession for and through me. Please lead me deeper into Jesus' likeness today. I receive all you have done and are doing in and through me with joy, awe, and thankfulness.

I now bring your authority, life, and Kingdom, Jesus, over my life today; over my home, those in my household, the ministry you have given me, and over all that is within my sphere of influence. I will bring your authority and your power against every evil thing coming against me — against every toxic memory, every stronghold, every triggered reaction, every foothold, every demonic assignment, every word curse, every negative generational influence, every soul-tie, every evil power and device, every demonic influence, every impure thought, imagination, or distraction, every sinful habit, every substitute for you, and every temptation as you give me the ability to recognize them. I will receive your understanding of my painful memories and triggered reactions, replace lies with truth, repent, renounce and break demonic influence, take thoughts captive, and break sinful habits in your name and in your power, my Adonai. I will disciple others to do the same. Please work in and through me so that I don't submit to, cooperate with, listen to, make any agreement with, or stay under any authority or influence that is not from you including other's and my own sin nature.

Dear Heavenly Trinity, thank you for granting me every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus and for welcoming me into your love and fellowship. Thank you for all that this relationship with you means in my life today and throughout eternity. I put on the full armor you have provided: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel of peace with you and others, and the helmet of salvation. I take up the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit, which is your Word. Thank you for, and please continue, giving me revelation from your written Word, your spoken Word, and your beautiful, wonderful, amazing "book" of creation. Please work in me to clearly hear, respond to, and apply the revelations and new understandings you are continually giving me. Thank you for blessing me, teaching me, correcting me, healing me, and guiding me moment by moment today and throughout eternity. I choose by your grace to love others today as I love myself and to serve you by honoring and serving them in *your* other-centered, self-giving love and wisdom. Please bring glory to your name today and every day in and through my life and ministry. Thank you for the relationships you have given me and for allowing me to take part in what you are doing on earth. May only *your* wisdom, other-centered love, grace, empathy, tenderness, and compassion dear Holy Trinity rule in all my relationships and interactions with others. Please open my eyes to see your "hand" in the details of my life. Please work in me to stand strong in *your* strength my Lord; to worship you in Spirit and in truth; to use and develop the strengths and spiritual gifts you have given me; and to live mindfully in the present moment. I will pray both with my understanding and in your Spirit. In Jesus' name, amen.