



Ever since Jesus taught us to pray, God's people have found guidance in expressing themselves to God. Jesus didn't want us to just repeat his words, he expects us to meditate on his words until we find his Spirit guiding us. C.S. Lewis called this art of making Jesus' prayer your own "festooning"; hanging our words on Jesus' words. *"I call them "Festoons", by the way, 'because they don't (I trust) obliterate the plain, public sense of the petition but are merely hung on it."* He then relates his own festoonings: how *'thy kingdom come'* may be a petition for harmony as well as the breaking-in of God's Kingdom in his self, his household, his college, and in England; how *'thy will be done'* may be a submission to suffering but also a desire to find contentment in old age.

Your goal in the document that follows is your own personal "prayer guide" that grows and changes as you grow and change. As you daily follow Jesus in prayer he will lead you down different paths - but they will always come off these 5 main roads. Follow Jesus down each of the 5 roads - ask him to show you what he wants you to ask for; then write it down. Everything in this document will change over time - except Jesus' words. You'll find better ways to express what your heart is saying. You'll find Scriptures that feed your faith in that area more profoundly. You will not be "limited" by this document - it's the starting point, not the end. Jesus was giving us a pattern and trusting the Holy Spirit to guide each of us. This will be your daily "diving board" into the endless ocean of God's Spirit in prayer. Start with the Word of Jesus - and you'll end in the Spirit.

## Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name

**1) Brian's prayer.** A. God, I stand in awe of you. Regardless of where I'm at - YOU - are amazing. Everything that exists came out of you. Everything exists at your pleasure and for your purpose. You made me, you love me and I am yours. B. Father, impress yourself upon my heart that I might live in the awareness and awe of you. Cause your name to be hallowed within this temple of earth. *(I'm only sharing mine for illustration purposes. Replace my words with yours and put your choice of scriptures below)*

My prayer \_\_\_\_\_

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**A)** *"You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased." Revelation 4:11*

**B)** *For God has imprisoned everyone in disobedience so he could have mercy on everyone. Oh, how great are God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his ways! For who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to give him advice? And who has given him so much that he needs to pay it back? For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen. Rom11:32-36*

**C)** *Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. 1 Chronicles 29:11-13*

**D)** *This is what the LORD says: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?" declares the LORD. "This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word. Isaiah 66:1,2*

**E)** *O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD. You hem me in--behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well. Psalms 139:1 1-10,13,14*

## Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**1) Brian's prayer.** A. Jesus, until you come back to reign physically; reign spiritually in us and through us in greater ways. Live and love through us that we might overflow to our homes, church and world. God, in your kingdom there are no more tears & every problem finds its solution – God, bring your kingdom here and bring it now. Fill us and save us from all the forms of darkness. B. God, send me ONE person today to share your love with.

My prayer \_\_\_\_\_

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**A)** *May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Eph 3:19*

**B)** *I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. Matthew 16:18*

**C)** *He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."* Revelation 21:4(niv)

**D)** *"My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. John 17:9 (Jesus praying)*

### **Give us this day our daily bread.**

**1) Brian's prayer.** A. Father, give me the eyes to see you and the grace to experience YOUR PLANS for today. B. God I accept today from you. All the joys, work, pain and pleasures of this day and I offer back my best effort to honor you. God, please give me everything I need to be a blessing TODAY. C. God, if I'm going to succeed today; I'll be needing EVERYTHING from you.

My prayer \_\_\_\_\_

**A)** *All creatures look to you to give them their food at the proper time. 7When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your 24 hand, they are satisfied with good things. When you hide your face, they are terrified; Ps 104:27-29*

**B)** *...apart from me you can do nothing. (Jesus speaking) John 15:5b NIV*

### **Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us**

**1) Brian's prayer:** *God, it's my sin I'm concerned about and no one else's. As I release others please forgive and release me from the consequences of my sins and failures. Thank you for the opportunity to show mercy in the way I want to receive mercy.*

My prayer \_\_\_\_\_

**A)** *I--yes, I alone--will blot out your sins, for my own sake and will never think of them again. Isaiah 43:25 **B)** Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. Eph 4:32*

### **Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from the evil one**

**1) Brian's prayer.** *God, now that I'm free from punishment through the blood of Jesus, don't let me use my freedom to walk into a trap. Don't let me go down destructive roads today, especially the ones that I want to go on. Lead me on the path of life today. For Jesus' sake, keep me from harm (doing damage) and make me fruitful today.*

*God, give me what Jesus deserves today and not what I deserve.*

My prayer \_\_\_\_\_

**A)** *To him who is able to keep you from falling and to bring you faultless and joyful before his glorious presence. To the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. Jude 1:24, 25*

**B)** *LORD, why have you allowed us to turn from your path? Why have you given us stubborn hearts so we no longer fear you? Return and help us, for we are your servants, the tribes that are your special possession. Isaiah 63:17*