

# 7 SIMPLE MORNING PRAYERS TO START YOUR DAY

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# 7 PRAYER TO START YOUR DAY

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# THE POWER OF STARTING EARLY:

## Investing in Prayer to Build a Strong Spiritual Foundation



Many people don't start thinking about investing until much later in life. That's understandable. There are so many obligations weighing upon you as a younger adult. And you're just getting started. It never feels like you have any cash to spare. But if, twenty years ago, I'd have committed to setting aside \$20 per month, given a reasonable return of 7% interest, I would now have a little over \$10,000 sitting in that account. But I didn't. That means if I want to get serious about investing today, I'm starting at zero.

That means if, at this point, I decide to increase my monthly investment to \$200 per month, with zero starting money, I'll end up with around \$105,000 in twenty years. But that same commitment to \$200 monthly with a starting fund of \$10,000 would yield me around \$143,000. If I wanted to end with \$143,000 at the end of twenty years but starting with zero, I would need to increase my monthly investment to \$274.28. \$20 at the age of twenty turns into \$75 at the age of 40.

All of this to say it's really important to start on a good foundation. If we think of our day similarly many of us are getting to the noon hour before we've even stopped to check in on our soul. In this regard we are playing "catch-up" physically, emotionally, and spiritually throughout the day. Why not consider making an investment, even a small one, into your day by spending a little time in prayer to start your day?

Here are a few prayers to guide you.



# A PRAYER TO REMEMBER YOUR SACRED IDENTITY

If we are in Christ, this verse is true for us. We belong to God.

As we start our day, it is important to reflect upon our identity.

We start the day as one who is forgiven and who is deeply loved by God.

As we awake in the morning, He calls us by name.

Remembering that you are forgiven and free from condemnation through the gospel allows us to face the day with the assurance of God's love and acceptance.





"Now this is what the Lord says—the one who created you, Jacob, and the one who formed you, Israel—'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are mine.'" - Isaiah 43:1

**Father,**

**Thank you for giving me a fixed identity in Christ.**

**I know that I am yours.**

**You have called me by name.**

**Help me today to live with that confidence.**

**Help me also live in such a way that I accurately reflect on belonging to you.**

**Keep my heart from a foolish desire to earn my status in the family.**

**Remind me today that I am Your beloved child, not because of what I have done but because of who you are.**

**In Jesus' Name,**

**Amen.**

# A PRAYER TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR DEPENDENCE ON GOD

Productivity gurus tell us that starting your morning by making a list of things to accomplish is key to a successful day.

That is a helpful reminder to be focused and intentional about our day. But we also need to remember that we are dependent.

Acknowledging our dependence is crucial for a fruitful day.



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." - John 15:5



Father,

I acknowledge my need for You today.

Help me to remain in You and draw my strength and wisdom from You.

Guide my steps and decisions, and let me bear much fruit for Your glory.

Apart from you,

I can do nothing. But in Christ,

I can do all that you call me to do today.

Amen.

# A PRAYER TO BE A POWERFUL WITNESS

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IF YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN,  
YOU WILL BE  
A WITNESS TODAY.  
THE QUESTION IS  
WHETHER OR NOT  
YOU'LL BE  
AN ACCURATE WITNESS  
OF THE GLORY OF GOD.  
STARTING OUR MORNING  
WITH A PRAYER  
TO ACKNOWLEDGE  
THIS REALITY  
AND TO ASK THE SPIRIT  
FOR EMPOWERMENT  
IS VITAL.  
AND IT WILL ALSO  
REORIENT US TOWARDS  
A MISSIONAL FOCUS.







"In the same way,  
let your light shine  
before others,  
that they may see  
your good deeds  
and glorify your  
Father in heaven."

- Matthew 5:16

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Lord,

You have made me a witness to your glory.

Help me to be an accurate image-bearer today.

Give me the boldness to give a reason for the hope that I have.

Help my light to shine in such a way  
that people ask about this hope.

Give me the eyes to see the opportunities that you've given today  
and the boldness to respond faithfully to them.

(Consider mentioning a specific person  
you can share the gospel with today).

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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# A PRAYER ASKING FOR GUIDANCE AND WISDOM

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We will face several decisions throughout the day. Some of them will be trivial, others might have lifelong ramifications. Either way, we should be governed by God's guidance and wisdom. Seeking out God's wisdom in the morning is essential for navigating daily challenges.

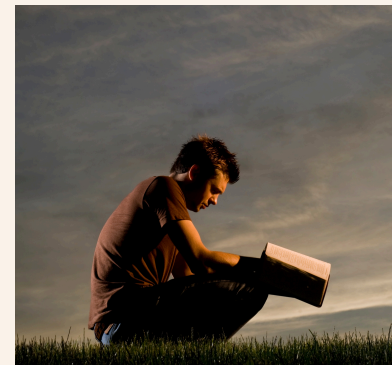
"If any of you lacks wisdom,  
you should ask God,  
who gives generously to all  
without finding fault,  
and it will be given to you."

- James 1:5



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Father,  
I ask for Your wisdom today.  
Guide my thoughts,  
words, and actions.  
Help me to make decisions  
that honor You  
and reflect Your will.  
Thank You for Your generous provision  
of wisdom.  
(Consider adding  
specific areas  
where you need guidance)  
Amen.



# A PRAYER OF GRATITUDE



As we go through our list of tasks for the day, they can seem overwhelming.

On occasion we'll begin the day in a foul mood, where we see the darkness instead of the light.

Starting the day with a heart of gratitude shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have.

We need this recalibration as soon as we wake up.

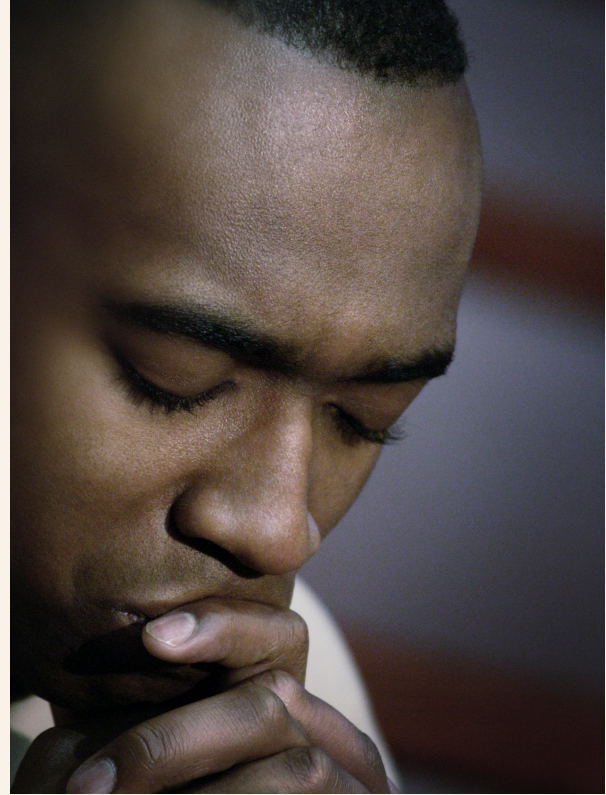
"Give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is God's will for you  
in Christ Jesus."  
- 1 Thessalonians 5:18



(Consider listing  
several specific  
blessings in your life).

Lord,  
I thank You  
for Your countless  
blessings in my life.  
Help me to see  
Your hand in every  
circumstance today  
and to maintain  
a heart of gratitude.  
Give me eyes to see  
Your fingerprints  
instead of the  
darkness  
around me.  
Help me  
shine like a star  
by not complaining  
and grumbling  
throughout my day.  
I know this  
is your will for me.  
Amen.

# A PRAYER FOR THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



As we think about what we will do throughout the day it is important to remind ourselves of who we are supposed to be. The fruit of the Spirit establishes what kind of character we should exhibit as we go throughout the day. Thinking through these fruits and praying for God to evidence them in our life is a great reminder of the type of people we'll be today.

Holy Spirit,

Fill me today and produce Your fruit in my life.

Help me to exhibit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in all my interactions.

Let my life reflect Your character.

Amen.



"But the fruit of the Spirit is  
love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness,  
and self-control.

Against such things, there is no law."

- Galatians 5:22-23

# A PRAYER TO WALK IN GRACE

There are about a million different ways I could have phrased this point.

I'm simply trying to say that we should be free, breathe easy, and drink deeply from the well of grace.

In our world today, many of us are so tied. We get offended easily, often even looking for offenses.

We're on high alert. The law gives us eyes to look for offenses. Grace gives us an excuse to love.







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"For it is by grace you have been saved,  
through faith—and this is not from yourselves,  
it is the gift of God—not by works,  
so that no one can boast."

- Ephesians 2:8-9

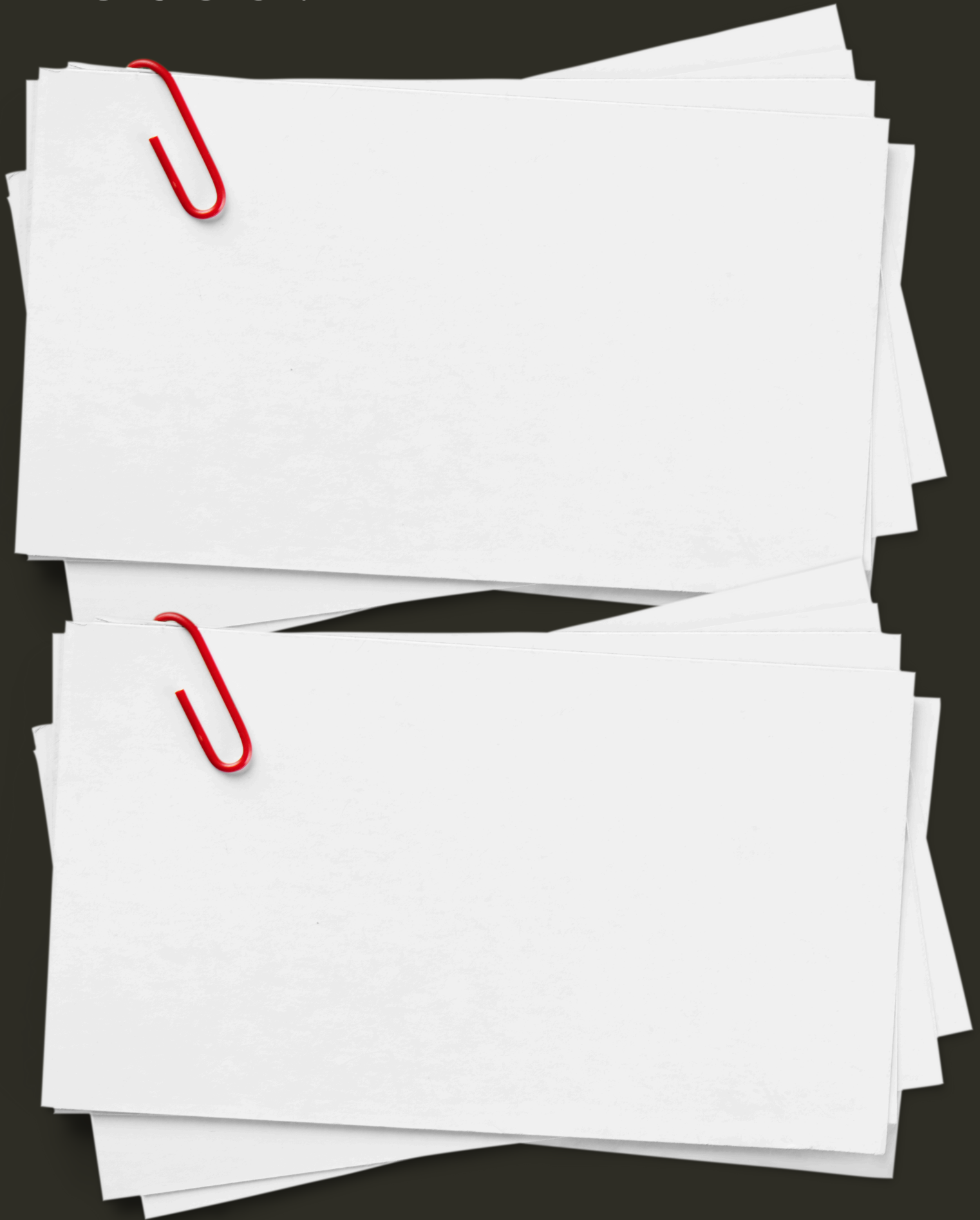
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Father,  
I am free.  
You have made me free.  
Forgive me my sin.  
Help me to forgive others.  
I want to walk in the freedom  
that you have purchased for me today.  
I want to be unburdened and unbound.  
Help me extend graciousness and joy to others  
as you have given them to me.  
In Jesus' Name,  
Amen.

(Consider taking deep breaths as you ask God's good  
favor to wash over your soul and body)

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# notes:



Mike Leake is husband to Nikki and father to Isaiah and Hannah. He is also the lead pastor at Calvary of Neosho, MO. Mike is the author of *Torn to Heal* and *Jesus Is All You Need*. His writing home is <http://mikeleake.net> and you can connect with him on Twitter @mikeleake. Mike has a new writing project at Proverbs4Today.