



An Hour Of Power

SWID
2017 Retreat

To pray is to change. Prayer is the central avenue God uses to transform us. ***If we are unwilling to change, we will abandon prayer as a noticeable characteristic of our lives.*** The more we pray, ***the more we come to the heartbeat of God.*** Prayer starts the communication process between ourselves and God. All the options of life fall before us. At that point we will either forsake our prayer life and cease to grow, or we will pursue our prayer life and ***let Him change us.***

Either option is painful. To not grow in His likeness is to not enjoy his fullness. When this happens, a haunting voice continues to ask, ***What could I have become in Him if I would have been a man of prayer?*** To grow in His likeness is to enjoy His fullness. When this happens, the priorities of the world begin to fade away

Richard Foster

What God Says To Me:

What I Will Do:

HOW TO USE THIS PRAYER GUIDE

Work through this booklet at your own pace.

Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you through the process. **It is not a race but a journey** that you take with God.

This guide is designed so the average person will finish in one hour, but feel free to take as long as you need. It is simply a tool to **help you connect with God.**

Feel free to read the Scriptures provided and any others you feel are appropriate for your time with Him. Share with God what is on your heart but also **be willing to listen to Him as He shares what is on His heart and mind.**

Read, reflect, pray and above all OBEY GOD during your time with Him.

Prayer is not monologue, but dialogue; God's voice is its most essential part. Listening to God's voice is the secret of the assurance that He will listen to mine.

Andrew Murray

Lord, here I am

*I long to hear from You!
I desire to speak with You!*

*I hunger for your grace.
I long for Your embrace*

Here, I am Lord!

*Prepare me to be your sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.*

**Lord,
I must be willing to lay**

***my time
my gifts
my money
my family
my job
my life
my attitude
my all
on your altar of sacrifice***

I must surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender; All to Him I freely give.
I will ever love and trust Him, In His presence daily live.

I surrender All
I surrender All
All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender

ALL

What Lord, Do I Need To Surrender?

What I Ask Of God

For Myself:

For Others:

Through Me:

My Greatest Fear:

My Greatest Hope or Desire:

Do I really believe in the Power of God to:

Forgive any sin?

Cleanse any sinner?

Change any life?

Help me in any situation?

Guide me in all of life's decisions?

NOW PRAY

FOR YOURSELF...

For cleansing, for strength, to forsake the sins
you have now confessed.

Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit.

To renew in you a love and joy for Him.

Ask God to give you the right attitude, a heart to serve and not to
be served.

Surrender all – ambition, desires, hopes, goals, time, talents, everything.
Put your all in His hands.

FOR YOUR FAMILY...

Ask for God's help in your home. Pray for their safety!
Pray for your children/mate.

FOR YOUR CHURCH AND DISTRICT ...

Pray for the pastors, staff, their support team, office staff!

Remember the various boards and other ministry leaders within
the body of Christ.

Bring to the Lord those who are new in the faith or have not yet
experienced forgiveness of their sins.

It Is Not Merely Things We Must Surrender To God.

**The greatest and often the last thing
surrendered to God is**

One's Self.

Have I Given Myself To God?

As One Surrendered To God,

Am I Ready To Listen & Obey?

Am I ready for God to

USE ME?

To make me ready for His service?

To take complete control of my life?

Am I willing to do as He desires?

Regardless of the cost . . .

Will you allow Him to use you?

**God desires to use you not for your glory,
but for His!**

Before we can be effectively used by God we need to encounter Him. This begins by entering into his Presence where we quickly discover our sin and our need for Him. Repentance is our response, and obedience to His call is the by-product. Before we do anything for God we must begin allowing God to do His work in us.

Read Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

**Have you recently experienced the awesome presence and holiness of God?
What have you discovered about yourself in that encounter?
Are you more interested in what you are doing for God
than what you are becoming?
Is there anything within you that God longs to clean or purify?**

Psalm 27:1-14

The LORD is my light and my salvation-- whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life-- of whom shall I be afraid? When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.

Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident. One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

DO I LOVE PEOPLE LIKE JESUS DOES?

Is there jealousy or envy in my heart?

Is pride getting in my way of serving God?

Have I failed to make restitution?

Can I be trusted to keep a secret?

Is the reputation of another safe in my hands?

Am I a gossip or a talebearer?

Have I hurt someone—or my church—by needlessly talking about faults and other issues?

And even if it was true, did I glorify God by sharing it with others?

Did I spend time praying for those involved?

Is my mind and heart open, honest, and clean before God?

Am I faithful to my wedding vows? In deed? In thought?

Is my home a good testimony for Jesus?

Is my family a good witness for a lost world?

Am I willing to forgive any and all wrongs committed against my family or me?

Do I have any secret sin that I excuse which needs forgiveness?

Have I forgiven those who have talked about me?

Did I meet every circumstance of today as Jesus would?

Am I worried or over-anxious about things I have no control over?

Do I fret and complain?

Am I guilty of the sin of unbelief?

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Matthew 6:12-15

Have I, in any manner, been dishonest with God?

Have I broken any vow or commitment to God or His Church?

Have I kept the promises I made in prayer?

Am I going to serve or receive?

DO I REALLY LOVE JESUS?

Am I dishonest in my dealings with people?

Do I leave the wrong impression when the truth is not known?

Am I too concerned about possessions?

What about coveting?

Have I sought material gain
more than spiritual blessing and nourishment?

DO I REALLY LOVE JESUS?

Is there anything in my life
that I would be unwilling to give to Jesus?

Do I deny myself daily for Jesus Christ?

Have I paid all my debts to others?

Do I have anything in my possession that is not rightfully mine?

Do I have a habit I should quit?

Have I asked God to help?

For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD. Hear my voice when I call, O LORD; be merciful to me & answer me. My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, LORD, I will seek.

Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior.

Though my father & mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence.

I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Upon doing God's work we will encounter opposition, trials and temptations. Upon whom will you place your trust? To whom do you go when life brings its difficulties and pain? What might you even now give to God?

Psalms 84:1-12

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself where she may have her young-- a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. Selah

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage. As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools. They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion. Hear my prayer, O LORD God Almighty; listen to me, O God of Jacob. Selah

Look upon our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one. Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. ***O LORD Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.***

Psalms 19:1-14

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is hidden from its heat. The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.

By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. Who can discern his errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.

Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me.

Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

I AM HERE—ALONE WITH GOD.

**DO I REALLY LOVE HIM?
DO I REALLY?**

Am I willing to pay the price?

Am I willing to do whatever God wants me to do?

Am I willing to make serving others a top priority?

Am I willing to be inconvenienced and yet pleasant?

Do I really love Jesus?

Have I neglected God's Word?

Have I forgiven everyone?

Do I have resentment in my heart?

Am I willing to ask forgiveness
from anyone I have wronged in any manner?

DO I REALLY LOVE JESUS?

Am I impatient?

Am I irritable?

Am I easily offended?

Do my hurt feelings keep me from serving God?

Do I get angry?

Hold grudges?

Plot for revenge?

Do I lose my temper?

Swell up with resentment?

Am I willing right now to ask God
to replace it with His love in my heart?

*God does nothing but by prayer, and everything with it.
John Wesley*

RIGHT NOW - AS YOU ARE ALONE WITH GOD

Examine your life. Turn the following pages slowly, reading each question and responding in open, honest transparency. Let God direct and guide you. Confess every sin, ask for strength and help in areas of weakness and concern.

Remember, Jesus understands the life we live. He understands our temptations. He knows what awaits us! He will help us through.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

I John 1:9

“If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.”

II Chronicles 7:14

Men are God's method. The church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. What the church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men who the Holy Spirit can use—men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Spirit does not come on machinery but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men—men of prayer.

E. M. Bounds

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise-- the fruit of lips that confess His name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:15-16

TAKE TIME TO PRAISE GOD

Thank God for blessings you have received. List them below:

*Prayer is the exercise of drawing on the grace of God.
Oswald Chambers*

*God chooses to use a clean vessel
for His work and ministry!*

Therefore we must

MAKE TIME TO CONFESS

There are three kinds of sins that we should confess.

1. **PRIVATE** - These are sins committed against God alone.
They need to be confessed to Him alone.
2. **PERSONAL** - Sins against others. There will be no peace
or restoration until these sins are confessed to God.

And as God leads, you may have to ask for forgiveness of
others you have wronged and hurt. It is your responsibility to restore,
heal, and to make things right.

3. **PUBLIC** - These sins are against the Church, the Body of Believers.

They include such things as ...

gossip
slander
apathy
bad attitudes

You can think and name many others.

If these sins are not confessed, revival, renewal, and God's peace will not come.
God uses pure vessels to accomplish His will! The Church needs more than
organization and manpower; it needs the power of God flowing through each one
of us!

Sin separates us from God and keeps Him from using us the way He desires!

For there must be ...

A cleansing before a filling
A yielding before a receiving
An empowering before witnessing

I John 1:8-9

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in
us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our
sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalms 51:1-19

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to
your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my
iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against
you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that
you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the in-
most place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I
will be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide
your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure
heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from
your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of
your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will
teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.

Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue
will sing of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will
declare your praise. You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O
God, you will not despise. In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
build up the walls of Jerusalem. Then there will be righteous sacrifices,
whole burnt offerings to delight you; then bulls will be offered on your
altar.