

PRAYERS FOR THE AGES

CATEGORIES OF BIBLICAL PRAYER

- **Adoration**: Praising God for his character, attributes, and mighty works.
- **Confession**: Acknowledging and repenting of sin openly before God.
- **Thanksgiving**: Expressing gratitude for grace, provision, and faithfulness.
- **Supplication & Petition**: Requesting God's help for personal needs.
- **Intercession**: Praying on behalf of others.
- **Lament**: Revealing sorrow, grief, or confusion, while still trusting God.
- **Imprecatory**: Calling on God's justice against evil.

MOSES & THE PERSONAL GOD

“And the Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, ***in order that I may make a great nation of you.***”

EXODUS 32:9-10

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So this was the test: To save Israel, Moses had to turn down the opportunity to make a name for himself. Would he pray for his people, or would he pursue his own ambitions?

PHILIP GRAHAM RYKEN

“But Moses ***implored the Lord his God*** and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth?’ Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.’” ¹⁴ ***And the Lord relented*** from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

EXODUS 32:11-14

“You have been rebellious against the Lord from the day that I knew you. So I lay prostrate before the Lord for these **forty days and forty nights**, because the Lord had said he would destroy you.”

DEUTERONOMY 9:24-25

WHAT MOSES *DID NOT PRAY*:

- Moses did not minimize Israel's sin.
- Moses did not offer any excuses for sin.
- Moses did not defend Israel based on merit.
- Moses did not accuse God of being unfair.
- Moses did not bargain with God at all.

FIVE REASONS FOR GOD'S MERCY

- Moses appealed to God's *fatherly affection*.
- Moses appealed to God's *past investment*.
- Moses appealed to God's *public reputation*.
- Moses appealed to God's *compassion*.
- Moses appealed to God's *everlasting covenant*.

“The next day Moses said to the people, “You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.” ³¹ So Moses returned to the Lord and said, ‘Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. ³² **But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.’** ³³ But the Lord said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against me, I will blot out of my book. ³⁴ But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; behold, my angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them. ³⁵ Then the Lord sent a plague on the people, because they made the calf, the one that Aaron made.”

EXODUS 32:30-34

“I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that **I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.**”

ROMANS 9:1-3

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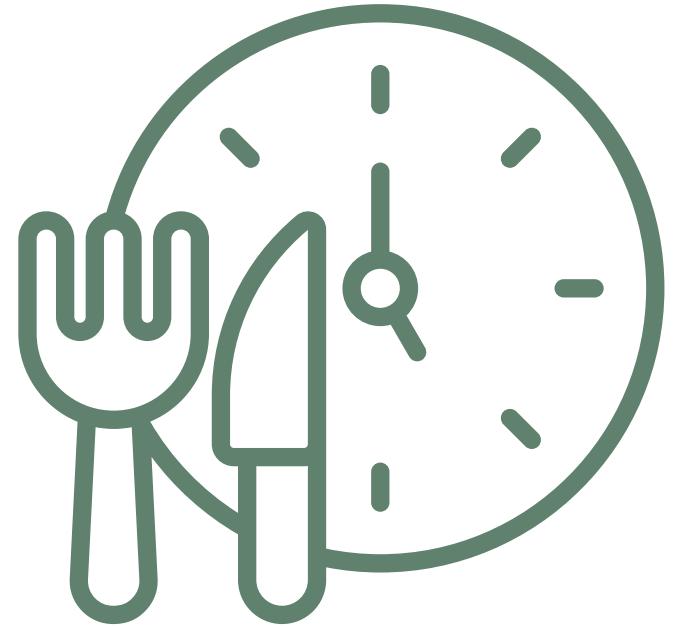
EXODUS 32:30-34



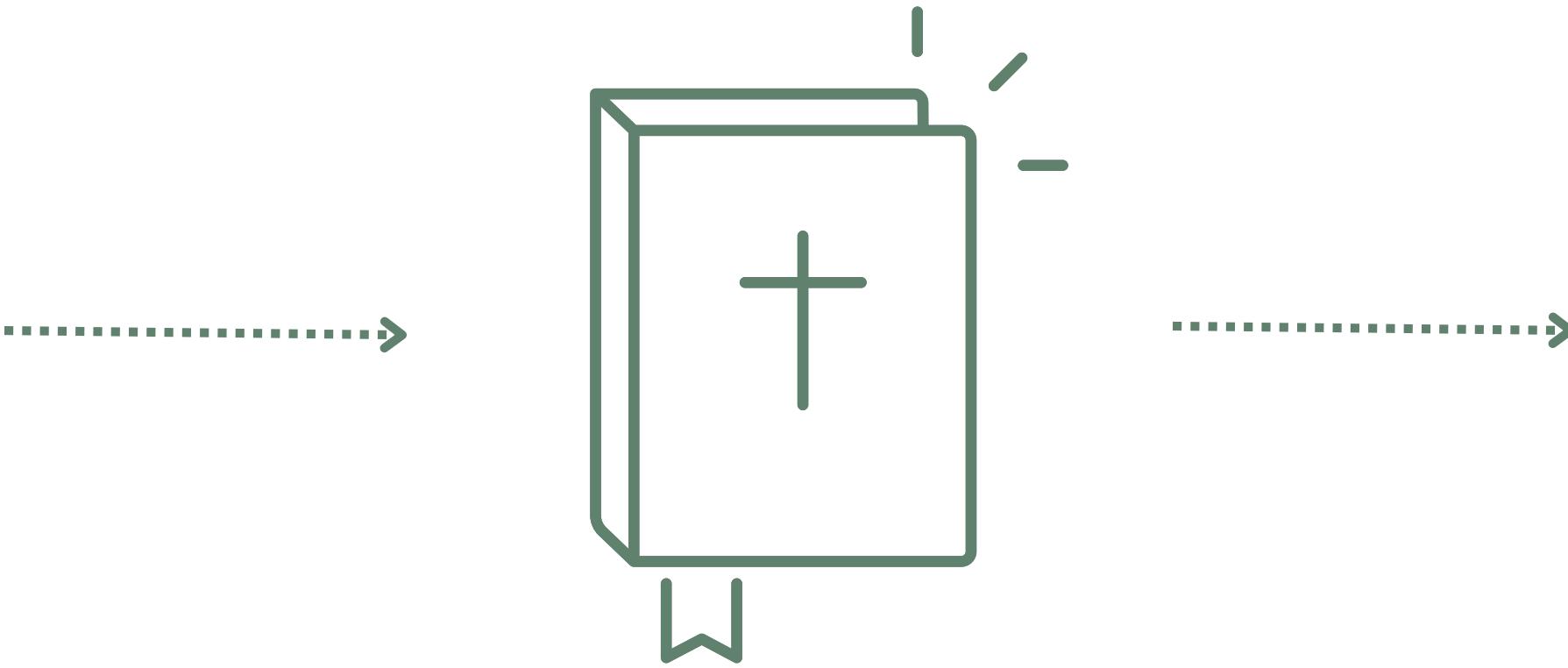
LIVE THE TEXT

- **Approach** God with reverence.
 - “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace.” (Hebrews 4:16)
- **Align** your prayers with God’s will.
 - “If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.” (1 John 5:14)
- **Present** clear and specific petitions.
 - “Let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:6)
- **Participate** in the church-wide Friday Fasts in January.

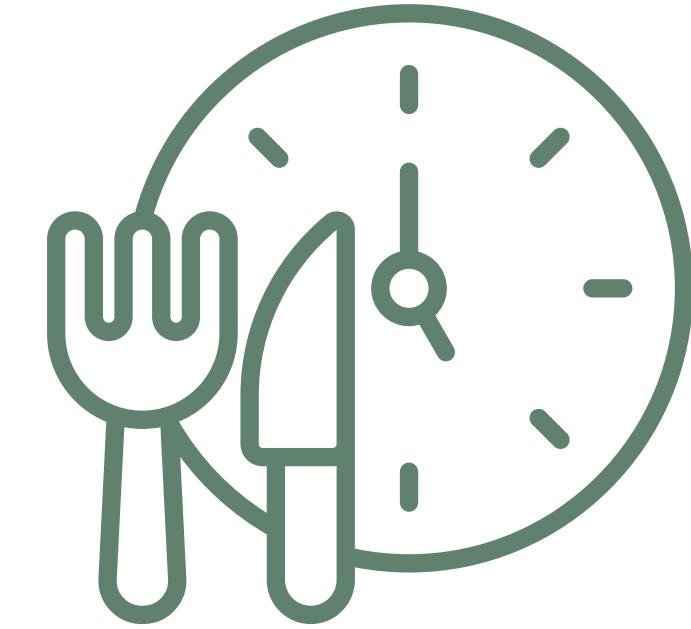
LIVE THE TEXT



THURSDAY
DINNER



FRIDAY
FAST



FRIDAY
DINNER