

Pray

with purpose

June 16

Praying With Cats

“As it is the business of tailors to make clothes and of cobblers to mend shoes, so it is the business of Christians to pray.”

~Martin Luther

Reminds Me

C onfession	Admit my weakness	Who I am
A doration	Praise God’s greatness	Who God is
T hanksgiving	Gratitude for God’s gifts	What He has done
S upplication	Request for God’s intervention	

Honest Confession

Luke 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The **Pharisee** stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ “But the **tax collector** stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Pray honestly from your heart.

“Be yourself. Be natural before God. You do not have to speak to him in ‘religious’ language about ‘spiritual’ matters only ... Speak as naturally and as easily as you would to a friend, since God is just that... This natural expression of yourself at the outset is the guarantee that you can go on to a creative, free, and mature relationship with God.”

~John B. Coburn

Prayer of Desperation

Luke 18:35-43

As **Jesus** approached Jericho, a **blind man** was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” He called out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” “Lord, I want to see,” he replied. Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

Pray your most sincere desires without embarrassment.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

~Jesus (Matthew 11:28)

Tireless Prayer

Luke 18:1-5

Then **Jesus** told his disciples a **parable** to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

“When you know that you (like Jesus), can’t do life on your own, then prayer makes complete sense.”

~Paul E. Miller