

John 1.1-14

From all eternity the Word existed

The Word was with God the Father

The Word was God the Son

The Word was the source of life for all creatures



The Word became a man, and lived among us.
We saw his glory, full of grace and truth

Many people did not recognize
and did not accept the Word

But to everyone who did accept him,
he gave power to become children of God

**Jesus, please help me understand
how you are the Word-made-flesh**

Luke 1.1-4

Dear Friend of God, there are already many reports written about Jesus. These reports come from people who were the earliest eyewitnesses and ministers of the Good News.

After checking the whole story, I also have decided to write a report, so that you may see for yourself the truth and accuracy of the Good News.

Jesus, help me understand your Good News

Luke 1.5-25

When Herod was king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth who were really good people, but they were childless

Once when they went to the Temple in Jerusalem, Zechariah entered the inner sanctuary to burn incense, while all the people prayed outside.

An angel appeared and said "Zechariah, your prayer has been heard. Your wife will have a son and you must name him John. He will prepare the way of the Lord".

Not long after this, Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept to herself, thanking God for taking away her humiliation at not being able to have a baby.

Jesus, help childless couples to have a baby

Luke 1.26-38

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary who was betrothed to a man named Joseph.

The angel said to her "Mary, rejoice! You have been greatly blessed by God. You are to conceive and have a son whom you must name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God"

Mary said to the angel

"How can this happen, since I am a virgin?"

The angel replied "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will specially bless you. Know this too: your cousin Elizabeth has, in her old age, conceived a son, and is now in her sixth month"

"I am the handmaid of the Lord", said Mary, "let what you have said, be done for me".

And the angel left her.

God the Son, thank you for becoming a baby in Mary's womb



Luke 1.39-45

As soon as she could and as quickly as she could, Mary went to Elizabeth's home in the hills near Jerusalem. As soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in Elizabeth's womb jumped, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth said to Mary "Of all women, you are the most blessed, and blessed is the baby in your womb. Why should I be honored with a visit from



the mother of my Lord? Blessed are you for believing God's promise"

Mary, blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Chapter 1.46-56

Mary said "My soul praises the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior. Starting from today, all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me". Mary stayed with Elizabeth about 3 months and then went home. Elizabeth gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives shared her joy. When the child was circumcised on the 8th day, he was given the name John.

Jesus, please bless all women who are having a baby today

Luke 1.67 - 80

When John was named, his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and said "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel. He has visited his people. And you, little child, you shall be called a prophet of the Most High. You will go before the Lord to prepare a way for him". When John grew older, he lived in the wilderness until the time came for him to begin his ministry.

Jesus, please help me prepare your way, by helping people to know you

Matthew 1.18 - 25

This is how Jesus came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph. But before they lived together, Mary became pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit.

An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to live with Mary as your wife.

Her baby has been conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son. You must name him 'Jesus' ('God **saves**') because he will **save** his people from their sins".

Joseph took Mary to his home as his wife. She gave birth to a son, Jesus.

Dear Jesus, Son of God, son of Mary, step-son of Joseph, please help me understand how you are the **Saviour of the world**

Luke 2.1-8

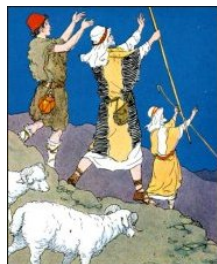
The Emperor of Rome ordered that a census be taken of the whole Empire. Every man had to go to his home town to be registered. So Joseph set out from Nazareth in Galilee and traveled to Judea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, with his pregnant wife Mary.

While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to have her child. She gave birth to a son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a feeding box for animals, because there was no room for them at the local inn.

**Baby Jesus, born in Bethlehem,
please bless all babies born in the world today**



Luke 2.8-14



Not far from where Mary had her baby, there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their sheep during the night. An angel appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them.

The angel said "Do not be afraid. I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by everyone. Today in the town of David, a Saviour has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. Look for a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger". Suddenly with the angel there were many other angels, praising God and singing "Glory to God in heaven, and peace to people on earth".

**O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord**

Luke 2.15-20

After the angels went away, the shepherds said to one another "Let's go to Bethlehem and see what the Lord has told us about". So they quickly went and found Mary and Joseph, and the



baby lying in a manger. People who heard the shepherds talk about the angels were amazed. As for Mary, she treasured every moment of what had happened, and pondered the whole event in her heart.

The shepherds went back to their fields glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen.

**Jesus we adore you, Jesus we adore you,
Jesus we adore you, Christ the Lord**

Luke 2.21-32

When the baby was circumcised on the 8th day, he was given the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him 9 months before

When Jesus was 40 days old, his parents took him to the Temple in Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord, as the Law required.

In Jerusalem there was an old man named Simeon. The Holy Spirit had revealed to him that before he died, he would see the Christ of the Lord

Prompted by the Spirit, he came to the Temple, took Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying "Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, for my eyes have seen the Saviour. He is a light to enlighten the pagans, and he is the glory of your people Israel"

**Jesus, true Light of the world,
we praise you Lord**



Matthew 2.1-12

Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem, during the reign of King Herod. Some months after Jesus' birth, several wise men from the East came to Jerusalem. They said "Where is the infant king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to offer him honor". King Herod felt threatened by this news. He knew from the Scriptures that the promised Saviour would be born in Bethlehem. So Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem, pretending that he too would like to offer honor to the child.

The wise men headed for Bethlehem, guided by the star. The star filled them with joy. The star stopped over the place where the child was.

The wise men fell to their knees, and honored the child. They offered him gifts of gold, incense and myrrh. Then they returned to their own country by a different way, having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod.

Jesus, help me to honor you like the wise men



Matthew 2.13 - 23

After the wise men left Bethlehem, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said "Go quickly to Egypt, because Herod wants to kill the child". That same night, Joseph got up and set out for Egypt with Mary and Jesus.



Herod was angry after being tricked by the wise men. He got his soldiers to kill all baby boys two years old or younger in Bethlehem.

After Herod died some months later, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, and told him to return to Israel.

Joseph, Mary and Jesus moved to the town of Nazareth, thus fulfilling the prophecy about the Saviour: "He will be called a Nazarene".

Luke 2.39-52

Joseph and Mary moved back to their own town of Nazareth. The child Jesus was filled with wisdom as he grew older. Each year Joseph and Mary would take Jesus to Jerusalem for the celebration of the Passover. When Jesus was 12 years old, they went to Jerusalem as usual. But when their traveling group left Jerusalem, Jesus stayed behind without his parents knowing it. They presumed he was somewhere with the group. When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

After 2 days, they found him, in the Temple, listening to the religion teachers and asking them questions. People who heard him were astounded at his intelligence. His mother said to him "My child, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been really worried about you". Jesus replied "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be concerned with my Father's work?" But they didn't understand what he meant. He went with them to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored all these things in her heart



Jesus, please help all "lost children" to be found!

Luke 3.1-6

In the 15th year of the Roman Emperor Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod was ruler of Galilee, and during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, God's message entered the heart of John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

John went through the whole Jordan River area proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. This had been foretold by the prophet Isaiah when he said "A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord"

Jesus, help us prepare your way, like John

Luke 3.10-14



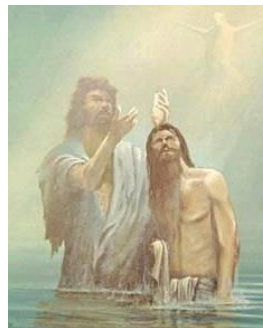
People asked John the Baptist how they should reform their lives. He replied: "If anyone has extra clothing, share with people who have none.

If anyone has plenty to eat, share with people who have nothing". Tax collectors asked John what they should do. He replied "Don't cheat anyone". Soldiers asked him "What about us? What must we do?" He replied "No bullying. No extortion. Be content with your pay".

Jesus, what about me? What should I do? 12

Luke 3.15-22

John the Baptist said to the people "I baptize you with water, but someone more powerful than I will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. I am not fit to undo the strap of the powerful one's sandals" .



Jesus then came and was baptized by John. While Jesus was praying after his baptism, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit came down on him in the shape of a dove. And a voice came from heaven "You are my Son, the Beloved. My favor rests on you".

Jesus, Beloved Son, please baptize me with your Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, please increase your influence in my life.

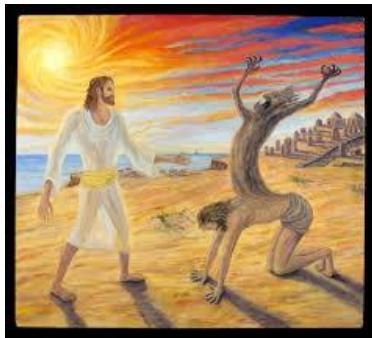
John 1:29-34

When Jesus came to the river Jordan where John was baptizing, John said "Look, there is the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is far more important than I am, because he existed (as the Word) before I was born. I saw the Holy Spirit come down on him like a dove. He will baptize people with the Holy Spirit. He is the Chosen One of God".

Jesus, lamb of God, Chosen One of God, please baptize me with the Holy Spirit 13

Matthew 4.1-11

After he was baptized, Jesus spent about 40 days praying and fasting in the desert. During this time, he was tempted by the devil.



"If you are the Son of God, change some stones into bread" said the devil
Jesus replied
"Human life needs more than bread. Life needs God's message".

The devil then took Jesus to a high place and said "Throw yourself down, since the angels will protect you". Jesus replied "Presumption is a sin".

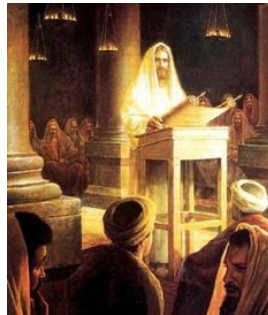
Then the devil took Jesus to a high mountain and showed him all the nations of the world. Worship me and I will give you all these nations" said Satan. Jesus replied "Go away, Satan! Only God is to be worshipped".

The devil then went away.

Jesus, please protect us from the *Devil* and from *evil*

Luke 4:14-22

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee. He taught in local prayer halls. His reputation spread. He came to his home town of Nazareth and went to the prayer hall on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up and read these words from the prophet Isaiah:



"The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to prisoners, to give sight to the blind, to set the downtrodden free".

Jesus then sat down and said to the people in the prayer hall "These words from Isaiah are being fulfilled today even as you listen".

Jesus, please help me be more open to the power of your Spirit. O Holy Spirit, please increase your influence in my life

Luke 4.31-37

Jesus went to Capernaum, a town in Galilee. On the Sabbath day he taught in the local prayer hall.

In the hall there was a man possessed by a devil which shouted "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God"



Jesus said sharply "Be quiet! Come out of him". And the devil left the man without hurting him.

People in the hall said "He gives orders to unclean spirits and they obey him". Jesus' reputation continued to spread through the district.

Jesus, please protect my family from evil

Luke 4.38-44

Jesus went to the home of Simon Peter. Simon's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever. Jesus was asked to help her. He bent over her, rebuked the fever and it left her. She immediately got up and served her guests.



After the Sabbath finished at sunset, everyone who had sick friends brought them to Jesus. Laying his hands on each of them, he healed them.

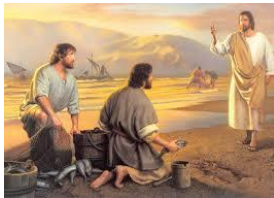
The next morning Jesus got up early and went to a lonely place to pray. People found him and asked him not to leave the area. But he replied "I must proclaim the Good News of the kingdom of God to other towns too, because that is what I was sent to do".

Jesus, heal my friend (.. name ..) who is sick

Luke 5.1-11: One day when Jesus was standing near the Lake of Gennesaret, with people pressing round him listening to the word of God, he saw two fishing boats near the bank. He got into one boat, it belonged to Simon Peter, and taught people from the boat, away from the shore a little distance. When he'd finished speaking, he said to Simon "Go out further to deep water and use your nets for a catch of fish". Simon replied "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but if you say so, I'll lower the nets".

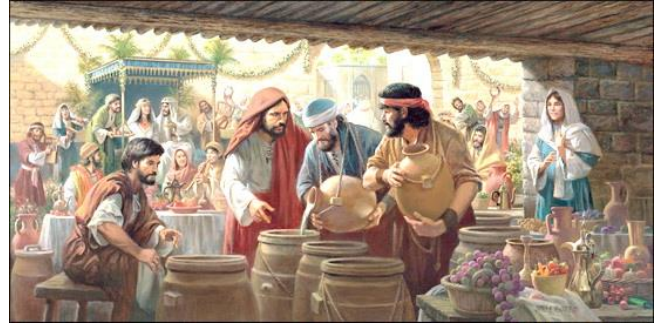
They soon caught so many fish that the nets began to tear. They called to their friends in the second boat to come and help. Both boats were soon filled with fish. Peter fell at Jesus' knees and said "Leave me, Lord, I am a sinful man", for he was overcome by the catch they had made, as were James and John who were his partners. But Jesus said to Simon "Don't be afraid. From now on, you will be fishers of men". Simon and his friends then left everything to follow Jesus.

Jesus, bless and protect all "fishers of men"



John 2.1-11

Jesus, his mother and his disciples were guests at a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The wine ran out, so Jesus' mother said to him "They have no wine". Jesus replied "Woman, my time for doing special things has not yet come". His mother said to the servants "Do whatever he tells you"



There were 6 big containers there, used for holding water. Each could hold about 35 liters. Jesus said to the servants "Fill the containers with water" and they filled them up. Jesus then said "take some out and give it to the man in charge of the banquet". When the man tasted the water, it had turned to wine. The man called the bridegroom and said "You have kept the best wine until now". This was the first public miracle done by Jesus.

Jesus, help me to do whatever you tell me to do

Luke 5.12-16

In one town that Jesus went to, a leper fell on his face and pleaded "Sir, if you want to, you can heal me".

Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said "Of course I want to heal you! Be healed!" And the leprosy left him at once



Jesus' reputation continued to grow. Large crowds gathered to hear him speak and to have their sicknesses cured. But afterwards Jesus would always go to a quiet place where he could be alone and pray.

**Jesus, please help me understand
that you want sick people to be healed**

Luke 5.17-26

God's power was on display when Jesus healed people. People came from far and near to hear him teach, and to ask for healing. One day some people carried a paralyzed man through a crowd to Jesus. The man was on a stretcher.

Jesus knew that these people believed he could help them, so he said to the paralyzed man "My friend, your sins are forgiven".

Some religious leaders in the crowd were thinking to themselves that Jesus was wrong to say he could forgive sins. So Jesus said to the leaders "Which is easier: to say 'Your sins are forgiven', or to say 'Get up and walk'?"

Then to prove that he had authority to forgive sins,



he said to the paralyzed man "Get up, pick up your bed and go home". The man got up, picked up his stretcher and went home. The crowd praised God for what they had seen.

**Jesus, please give me more faith in your power
to forgive, your power to heal**

Luke 5.27-32

As Jesus walked along, he noticed a tax collector sitting by the customs house. The collector's name was Levi (Matthew). Jesus said to him "Follow me". Leaving everything, he got up and went with Jesus.

In Jesus' honor Levi held a banquet in his house. Many tax collectors and social outcasts were present.

The religious leaders complained "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and outcasts?" Jesus replied "It is not those who are well who need the doctor, but the sick. I have come to call sinners, not the virtuous, to repentance".

Jesus, thank you for befriending people who were looked down on. Please help me do likewise

Luke 6.1-5

One Sabbath day Jesus and his disciples were walking through a cornfield. The disciples were hungry. They picked some ears of corn and ate them.

Picking corn on the Sabbath was regarded as unlawful by the Pharisees. So the Pharisees said to Jesus "Your disciples are breaking the Sabbath law". Jesus replied "Don't you remember what King David and his followers once did when they were hungry?"

They ate the Temple bread which only the priests were allowed to eat. I am Master of the Sabbath".

Jesus, please help me understand that love is more important than law

Luke 6.6-11

On another Sabbath, Jesus visited a prayer hall. A man with a withered hand was in the prayer hall. Some religious leaders were watching to see if Jesus would heal the man (since no work was allowed on the Sabbath, and they regarded healing as work). Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he said to the man with the withered hand "Stand up! Come out into the middle of the hall". He came out and stood there. Jesus then asked the leaders "Is it against the law on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil; to save life or to destroy it?"



Then he said to the man with the withered hand "Stretch out your hand". He stretched it out. It was healed.

The leaders were very angry. They left the prayer hall and began plotting how to get rid of Jesus.

Jesus, please stop bad religious leaders from misleading people

Luke 6.12-16

Jesus went to the hills to pray. He spent a whole night praying. In the morning he called all his disciples together. He chose 12 of them and called them "apostles":

Peter and his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon, Judas son of James - and Judas Iscariot who became a traitor.

Jesus and the 12 came down from the hill to a place of level ground. Gathered there were his many disciples and a large crowd of people from all over the country who had come to hear him and to be healed of diseases



People in the crowd tried to touch Jesus because power came out of him that cured everyone.

Jesus, please bless modern day apostles who pray for the sick to be healed

Matthew 5.1-12

Jesus said to the crowds:

Blessed are poor and simple of heart people.
They belong to the kingdom of heaven

Blessed are people who are going through great sorrow. Their hearts will be filled with peace

Blessed are people who lead just and honest lives.
They will see the victory of goodness

Blessed are people who show mercy to others.
God will be merciful to them.

Blessed are people who have a clean heart.
They will see God.

Blessed are people who are peacemakers.
They are God's children

Blessed are people who are persecuted for the cause of right. They will receive a great reward in heaven.

Jesus, help me be merciful and kind and just

Matthew 5.13-48

Jesus said to the crowds:

You are the salt of the earth.

But if salt loses its taste, it's no use for anything.

You are the light of the world.

Let the world see your light, your good deeds.

When people see you doing good deeds,
people will praise God

I have not come to abolish the Law.

I have come to raise it to a higher level of
goodness

Your goodness must not just be something
superficial. Your goodness must be something
from the heart

You must avoid anger and insult,
just like you avoid murder.

If you have offended someone, say "Sorry".

You must avoid lustful looks and thoughts.

Looking at someone lustfully is immorality of the
heart.

Love and pray for people who are unkind to you.
This is the way to practise the highest level of
goodness

**Jesus, please help me practice a higher level of
goodness**

Matthew 6.1-15

Jesus said to the crowds:

When you do a good deed, do it for its own sake,
not just to get people to praise you.

When you pray, love to pray in private in your
heart. Don't be looking for people to notice and
praise you.

When you pray, there's no need to rave on and on.
God is not deaf.

Prayer is not a lawyer arguing a case.

Prayer is a child speaking with simple trust,
like this:

**Our Father in heaven,
may everyone love and honor you.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Thank you for enough food for today.

Forgive us as we forgive others.

Save us in time of trial.

Protect us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever**



Matthew 6.16-24

Jesus said to the crowds: When you do a bit of fasting, don't run round telling the world what you are doing. Secret fasting is spiritually powerful

Your most important account is with the Bank of Heaven. Build up your deposit with lots of good deeds and prayers



Physical blindness is a great tragedy.
Greater still is spiritual blindness

God must be number one in your life.
Don't let money or anything else replace God

Jesus, please be Number One in my life

Matthew 6.25-34

Jesus said to the crowds that life is about more than food and clothing

Pointing to some birds flying around, Jesus said: Look at the birds. They don't sow or reap, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. You are more precious than the birds.



Pointing to flowers in the field Jesus said: They are more beautiful than King

Solomon's clothing. If God cares so much about the life of flowers, won't he care even more about human life?

So, don't spend your day worrying about what you are going to eat and drink and wear

Put God first in your life, God and a right way of life, then God will look after your physical needs

Don't waste your energy worrying about tomorrow. Live life one day at a time

Heavenly Father, thank you for caring for the birds and flowers....and me!

Matthew 7.1-27

Jesus said to the people: Do not judge other people, and God will not judge you.

It's so easy to be aware of other people's faults, yet be blind to your own faults

Persevere in prayer. Ask and you will receive. Search and you will find. Knock and the door will open.

You like to give good things to your children. God likes to give good things to you

Treat other people the way you would like them to treat you.

Beware of bad leaders. A sure way to know if someone is good or bad: are their actions good or bad?



like someone who builds their house on sand.

Jesus, please help me put your words into practice

John 4.34-36

Jesus said to his disciples

"My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work.

Look around, look at the fields. They are ready for harvest".

Jesus, please encourage more people to be Gospel workers, harvesting souls for eternal life

Matthew 8.1-3

In Jesus' time, it was illegal for anyone to touch a leper, and it was illegal for lepers to go near other



people. But one day a leper broke the law. He came right up to Jesus and said "If you want to, you can heal me". Jesus also broke the law. He stretched out his hand, touched the leper, and

said "Of course I want to heal you. Be healed!" The man was healed immediately

Jesus, I didn't know you were a law-breaker. I guess this means that sometimes, in special cases, it's ok to break the law

John 4.46-53

Jesus went again to Cana in Galilee, where he had changed water into wine. In Cana there was a royal official whose son was dying in his home in the town of Capernaum.

The official asked Jesus to go to his home and cure his son. "Sir", he said to Jesus, "come to my house before my child dies".



Jesus replied "Go home. Your son will live". The official believed Jesus and started his journey home.

While on the journey, he was met by his servants who told him the boy was alive and well. "The fever left him yesterday, they said, "at 1pm".

The father realized that this was the exact time when Jesus had said "Your son will live".

The official and all his household then believed in Jesus.

Jesus, (.. name ..) is sick. Please heal him/her

Luke 6.27-38

Jesus said to the people:

Love your enemies

Do good to people who hate you

Pray for people who are unkind to you

Treat others as you would like them to treat you

Be compassionate as your heavenly Father is compassionate

Do not judge, and you will not be judged.

Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned

Grant pardon, and you will be pardoned.

Give, and there will be gifts for you.

The amount you measure out
is the amount you will be given back

Jesus, bless (.. name ..) who was unkind to me



Luke 7.1-10

Jesus went to the town of Capernaum. In the town there was a Roman soldier, a centurion, who had a dear servant who was sick and close to death.

Having heard about Jesus, the centurion sent some Jewish friends to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant. The Jewish friends said to Jesus "He deserves this of you. He is friendly to our people. He is the one who built our prayer hall"

Jesus went with them, but before they reached the house, the centurion sent some servants with the message "Sir, I am not worthy to receive you into my house. This is why I didn't come to you personally. Just say a word, and my servant will be healed"

When Jesus heard these words, he said to the crowd following him "I have not found faith as great as this man's". When the messengers got back to the house, they saw that the servant was healed and in perfect health

**"Jesus, I am not worthy to receive you.
Say but the word, and I shall be healed"**

(prayer from Communion service)

Luke 7.11-17

Jesus and his disciples went to a town called Nain. Many other people went with them.

As they reached the town, a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.



When the Lord saw her, he felt sorry for her. "Do not cry" he said. Then he said "Young man, I tell you to get up". The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother.

Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying "A great prophet has appeared among us. God has visited his people".

**Jesus, please give me the faith to pray that
dead people will come back to life - you who
once told your disciples "to raise the dead"**

Luke 7.18-30

John the Baptist, imprisoned by King Herod, heard the news about Jesus.

John sent two of his friends to ask Jesus "Are you the Promised One?"

Jesus replied "Go and tell John what you have seen today: the blind see again, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor".



Jesus then spoke to the people about John:

"Everyone who accepted baptism from John, acknowledged God's plan. But by refusing baptism from him, the religious leaders thwarted what God had in mind for them".

Jesus, please don't let me do anything to thwart your plan for my life

Luke 7.36-50



A religious leader invited Jesus for a meal. A woman who had a bad name heard that Jesus was at the leader's home. She entered the house and knelt

behind Jesus, crying. Her tears fell on Jesus' feet, and she wiped them away with her hair. She covered his feet with kisses, and put ointment on them. The leader was thinking "If Jesus is a prophet, he would know what sort of woman is now touching him".

So Jesus said to the leader "I came into your house and you did not follow the custom of pouring water on my feet. But this woman has poured out her tears on my feet. You gave me no welcoming kiss, but she has been covering my feet with kisses. You gave me no welcoming oil on my head, but she has anointed my feet. I tell you that her sins must have been forgiven, or she would not have shown such great love. People who are forgiven little, show little love".

**Jesus, forgive my sins.
Help me show great love**

John 3.1-5 A religious leader said to Jesus "you are a teacher who comes from God, for no one could perform the signs that you do, unless God were with him". Jesus replied "Unless you are born through water and the Spirit, you cannot enter God's kingdom"



Jesus, please help more people be baptized through

water and the Spirit

John 3.13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "The Son of Man must be lifted up on a cross, as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him".



God loved the world so much, that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved

Jesus, only Son of God the Father, thank you for coming into this world. Please help more and more people believe in you

John 3.25-36 Some of John the Baptist's disciples told John that many of his disciples were leaving him and following Jesus. John replied "I am not the Christ. I am the one who was sent to prepare his way. The bride is only for the bridegroom. But the bridegroom's friend is happy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. This is the happiness I now feel. He must become more and more important. I must become less and less important. Anyone who believes in the Son has eternal life. But anyone who refuses to believe in the Son will not have eternal life".

Jesus, be more and more important in my life

John 4.1-14

Jesus visited a Samaritan town. Near a well there, Jesus said to a Samaritan woman "Give me a drink". He also said to her "If you drink water from this well, you will get thirsty again. But if you drink the water that I shall give, you will never be thirsty again. The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life inside you".



Jesus, please give me a drink of your eternal life water - which is your Holy Spirit

Luke 6.41-45

In his teaching, Jesus said "Why do you notice the splinter in someone else's eye, but don't notice the plank in your own eye? Deal with your own faults before you start correcting other people. A good tree does not produce bad fruit. A bad tree does not produce good fruit. The fruit tells you what sort of tree it came from. So with people: their words and actions tell you what their heart is like - good or bad.

Jesus, please help me be a good person, producing good fruit

Luke 8.1-3

Jesus went to many towns and villages, proclaiming the Good News. The 12 apostles



went with him, as did a group of women who had been healed of evil spirits and sicknesses: Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna and several others. These

women used their own money to support Jesus and the apostles.

Jesus, thank you for all the women who support the spread of the Good News in today's world

Matthew 13.1-23



One day Jesus told the people this story: A farmer was planting seeds in his field. Some seeds fell on the path. Birds ate them. Some seeds fell on rocky ground. They became sickly plants, without roots, and died. Some seeds fell among thorns. When they became plants, they were choked by the thorns. Some seeds fell on good soil, and produced a rich harvest.

People who hear God's word without good will are like the seeds on the path. They are easy prey for Satan.

People who hear God's word only superficially are like the seeds on rocky ground. As soon as difficulties come, such people easily give up.

People who hear God's word with one ear, but with the other listen to the call of greed and pleasure, are like the seeds among thorns. Greed kills the word.

People who hear God's word with good will and put it into practice, are like the seeds on good soil which produced a rich harvest

Jesus, please help me be good soil!

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Jesus told the people another story:



The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. An enemy came and sowed weeds in the same field. When the good seed sprouted, so did the weeds.

The man's servants asked if they should get rid of the weeds. "No", said the man, "you might damage the

good seed if you do that. Let them both grow till harvest time. Then burn the weeds"

Then Jesus explained his story: "I am the sower. The field is the world. The good seed stands for people of good will. The weeds stand for people of bad will. The enemy is Satan. At the end of the world, I will send my angels to sort out the good and the bad people. Bad people will go to hell. Good people will go to heaven"

Jesus, please protect good people from bad people

Luke 8.19-21

Jesus' mother and his brothers came looking for him. They could not get to him because of the crowd. Jesus was told "Your mother and brothers want to see you". Jesus replied "My mother and brothers are people who hear the word of God and put it into practice".

Jesus, please help me put your word into practice in my daily life, like Mary your mother



Luke 8.22-25

Jesus and his disciples got into a boat to cross the lake. Jesus was so tired that he went to sleep in the boat. Then a sudden storm caused big waves to lash the boat. Jesus' friends woke him up and said "Master, we are sinking". Jesus ordered the wind and sea to be calm. Straight away the wind and sea were calm. The disciples said to each other "Who is this? Even the wind and sea obey him."

Jesus, please calm the storms in my life

Luke 8.40-56 A prayer hall official came to Jesus and urgently asked him to go to his house, where his 12 year old daughter was dying. As Jesus and his friends were following the official to his home, a woman who had a hemorrhage for 12 years came up behind Jesus and touched his clothing. Her bleeding stopped at that moment. Jesus knew what had happened, and said to her "My daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace".



Before Jesus arrived at the official's house, a messenger arrived and said to the official "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Master any more". Jesus heard these words and said to the official "Do not be afraid. Have faith, and she will be ok". At the house Jesus allowed only Peter, James, John and the girl's parents to go with him inside. To the mourners Jesus said "Stop crying. She is not dead, but asleep". They laughed at him, since they knew she was dead. Jesus took the little girl by the hand and called to her "Child, get up". Her spirit returned and she got up at once.

Jesus, please increase my faith in your power to heal sick people and raise the dead

44

Matthew 9.27-31

As Jesus walked along, two men who had become blind, followed after him calling out "Son of David, please help us". Jesus asked them "Do you believe I can help you?" They said "Yes we do". Then Jesus touched their eyes and said "Your request made in faith is granted". Immediately they were able to see again. They told everyone they met what Jesus had done for them



Jesus, heal my friend (.. name ..) who is blind

Matthew 9.35-37

Jesus went to many towns and villages. In the local prayer halls he taught people the Good News of God's kingdom. He healed all sorts of diseases and sicknesses. He felt sorry for the ordinary people because they were like sheep without a shepherd - leaderless, exploited, and feeling hopeless. He said to his friends: "So many people don't have good leaders. Pray to God to send good leaders"

Jesus, many countries have bad leaders. Please help every country to have good leaders

45

Matthew 18.1-10

One day Jesus heard his disciples arguing about which one of them was the most important.



Jesus got a little child to sit in front of them, and said "If you want to be great in God's eyes, become child-like.

In fact, unless you become child-like, you won't get to heaven.

And make sure you never cause harm to children like this one. Remember, the protecting angels of children are in the presence of my Father in heaven".

Jesus, please help me to be more child-like, and please don't let me ever cause harm to children

Matthew 13.53-58

One day Jesus went to Nazareth, his home town. In the prayer hall there, he taught the local people. But the local people would not accept him.



They said "Where did he get such wisdom and miraculous power? He is just a carpenter's son. His mother is that woman called Mary. His brothers are James, Joseph, Simon and Jude. His sisters are here, too. He's nobody special". Jesus said to them "A prophet is despised only

in his own country and his own house". And he did not work many miracles there because of their lack of faith

Jesus, please give me more faith in you and don't let me reject people

Luke 4.23-30

People in the prayer hall rejected Jesus. "Who does he think he is?" they asked. "He's just the son of Joseph". Jesus replied "No prophet is ever accepted in his own country". The angry people then took Jesus by force to the edge of the hill on which Nazareth was built. They planned to throw



him down the cliff. But Jesus escaped from them and went away.

Jesus, please forgive people who reject you. Please help them accept you

Matthew 10.1-16

Many men followed Jesus as "fishers of men", as "disciples". Jesus chose 12 of them and called them "apostles":

Peter and his brother Andrew; Zebedees' sons James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus; Thaddaeus, Simon and Judas

Jesus sent them to prepare his way by visiting the places he would go. He gave them power to cast out evil spirits and to heal all kinds of sicknesses

He said to them: Proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is near. Cure the sick. Raise the dead. Cleanse lepers. Cast out devils

Jesus, please help all Christians to be apostles and fishers of people

Luke 9.1-6

Jesus called the 12 apostles together. He gave them power and authority to cast out devils and to heal sick people. He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. So they set out and went from village to village proclaiming the Good News and healing sick people.

Jesus, help me understand how some people have a special gift for healing sick people....and how I can better pray to heal sick people 48

Matthew 10.17-38

Jesus said to his apostles "Because you follow me and speak my message, therefore you will be arrested and put in prison. But don't worry about what to say for your defence. What to say will be given you by the Holy Spirit. Boldly

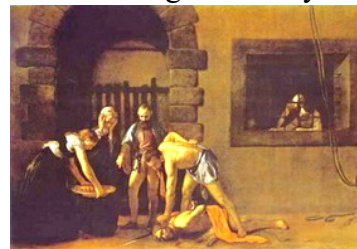


proclaim my message and do not be afraid of persecution. Take up your cross and follow me. Anyone who does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me".

Jesus, please give me more courage

Matthew 14.1-12

Not long after Jesus began traveling and teaching, King Herod arrested John the Baptist and put him in prison. This was because John had told Herod he was breaking the Law by living with Herodias, his brother's wife. During a birthday party for Herod, the daughter of Herodias danced. Her dancing so pleased Herod that he said he would give her anything she wanted.



Herodias told her to ask for the head of John the Baptist on a dish. Herod then had John beheaded. John's disciples came and buried the body.

Jesus, please give the world good leaders, and protect people from bad leaders like Herod 49

John 6.1-15

Near the Sea of Galilee, a large crowd followed Jesus, attracted by the way he healed so many sick people. Jesus climbed a hillside and sat there with his disciples. Seeing the huge crowd, Jesus said to one of his disciples "How can we feed so many people?"

The disciple Andrew said "There's a young boy here with 5 loaves and 2 fish. But what good is that for such a huge crowd?" Jesus said "Make the people sit down". More than 5,000 people sat down on the grass. Then Jesus took the loaves,



gave thanks, and gave them out to all the people. He did the same with the fish. Everyone ate as much as they wanted to. The people, seeing this

miracle, said "He really is God's great prophet". Jesus, aware that they wanted to make him king, slipped away and went up the hill by himself.

Jesus, please bless my prayers and actions to help others, just as you blessed the loaves and fish

Matthew 14.22-33

After feeding the crowd with 5 loaves and 2 fish, Jesus told his disciples to go by boat across the nearby lake. Jesus stayed to send the crowds away. Then he went up into the hills to pray

When darkness came, the boat was far from land, but it was battling large waves caused by a strong head-wind. Jesus then walked on the water towards the boat. He called out to his disciples "Courage. It is I. Don't be afraid".



Peter answered "Lord, if it is you, tell me to walk on the water to you"

Jesus said "Come"

Peter then started walking on the water, but he

became afraid and began to sink. "Lord, save me" he called out. Jesus took him. by the hand and helped him to keep walking on the water

"Man of little faith, why did you doubt?" asked Jesus. As they got into the boat, the wind stopped.

The men in the boat bowed to Jesus and said "You really are the Son of God"

Jesus, please help me not to lose faith in you

Matthew 14.34-36

When Jesus got out of the boat on the other side of the lake, people recognized him and news of his presence spread quickly. From all around that area, sick people were brought to Jesus. The sick people just wanted to touch Jesus' clothing. All those who touched his clothing were healed



Jesus, please heal my sick friends (..names..) by letting them, through prayer, touch your clothing

Matthew 15.1-20

Some religious leaders asked Jesus "Why do your disciples ignore many external practices of our religion?"

Jesus answered, with the words of the prophet Isaiah: "This people honors me with external lip-service, while their hearts are far from me." Jesus also said "It's not certain foods or lack of washing that makes a person unclean. It's evil in the heart that makes a person unclean. Evil intentions like murder, adultery, fornication, theft, perjury, slander. These are the things that make a person unclean"

Jesus, please clean my heart

John 5.1-14

Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a Jewish festival. In a building near the Sheep Gate, he saw many sick people. One paralyzed man had been ill for 38 years. Jesus said to him "Do you want to be well again? Get up, pick up your bed and walk". The man was healed at once. He picked up his



bed and walked away. After a while Jesus met him in the Temple and said to him "Now that you are well, do not sin any more". **Jesus, if my sickness is due**

to some sin, please forgive me and heal me

John 5.17-30 Jesus said to the religious leaders

"My Father goes on working, and so do I. Whoever refuses honor to the Son, refuses honor to the Father who sent him. The Father judges no one. He has entrusted all judgement to the Son. A time will come when the dead will leave their graves at the sound of the Son's voice. Those who did good, will rise again to life. Those who did evil, will face condemnation".

Jesus, some day you are going to be my judge. On that day may I hear you say "I was hungry, and you gave me food etc" (Matthew 25)

John 5.36-46

Jesus said to the religious leaders
"The healing and teaching my Father has given
me to do, testify that the Father sent me

You study the Scriptures, realizing that in them
there is the message of life. Now these same
Scriptures focus on me, and yet you refuse to
come to me for life.

If you really believe what Moses wrote, you
would believe in me, since it was I that he was
writing about"

**Jesus, help me understand how everything in
the Bible is related to you. Help me understand
that "ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance
of you"**



John 6.26-29

Jesus said to the people "You have come looking
for me because you had so much bread to eat.
Do not give so much concern to physical food.

Be more concerned about the spiritual food that
lasts forever. This is the food I am offering you"

Jesus, please give us the food that lasts forever

John 6.35-40

Jesus said to the people "The bread of God is he
who comes down from heaven and gives life to
the world.

I am the bread of life



Anyone who comes to me will never be hungry.
Anyone who believes in me will never be thirsty.
It is my Father's will that whoever believes in me
will have eternal life"

**Jesus, living bread from heaven, please help
more and more people believe in you and love
you**

John 6.42-51

The people criticized Jesus saying "We know his father and mother. How can he say he has come down from heaven?"



I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

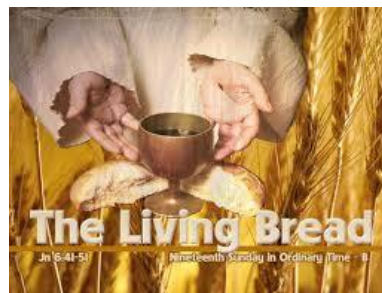
Jesus replied "I am the bread of life. If you eat this bread which has come down from heaven, you will live forever. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever. And the bread that I will give is my flesh, for the life of the world"

Jesus, Living Bread come down from heaven, please help me understand how you give your flesh for the life of the world

John 6.52-58

The people said among themselves "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus replied "If you refuse to eat my flesh, and drink my blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood, has eternal life.



For my flesh is real food, and my blood is real drink. Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I live in them. As I, who am sent by

the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever"

Jesus, thank you for the gift of your Body and Blood in Holy Communion

John 6.59-69

After hearing what Jesus said about his flesh and blood, many of his disciples said "How can anyone believe in such crazy ideas?" Many disciples then stopped following Jesus. Jesus said to the 12 apostles "What about you? Are you also going to leave me?" Peter replied "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life. We believe you are the Holy One of God"

Jesus, please don't ever let me stop following you



Matthew 15.21-28

Jesus went to the coastal district near Tyre and Sidon. A foreign woman followed him and shouted "Sir, Son of David, have pity on me. My daughter is tormented by an evil spirit". At first Jesus did not answer her, so his disciples said to him "Help her, because she keeps shouting after us." Jesus replied "I was sent only to the people of Israel." The foreign woman by now was kneeling at Jesus' feet. "Lord, help me" she pleaded. Jesus said to her "Woman, you have great faith. Your wish is granted". At that very moment, her daughter was healed

Jesus, please give sick people great faith in you



Matthew 15.29-31

Jesus went up into the hills near the Lake of Galilee. Large crowds came to him bringing the lame, the crippled, the blind, the dumb and many others. These they put down at Jesus' feet. Jesus healed them all. The crowds praised the God of Israel when they saw the dumb speaking, cripples whole again, the lame walking and the blind able to see

Jesus, please give sick people more faith in your healing love

Mark 7.31-37

Jesus traveled through the area south of the Sea of Galilee. A deaf man with a speech impediment was brought to him. Jesus took the man aside in private, away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears and put spittle



on his tongue. Then he prayed and said "Be opened". The man's ears were opened and his speech became normal. The people said "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak".

Jesus, heal (.. name ..) who is "deaf and dumb"

Mark 8.22-26

In the village of Bethsaida, a blind man was brought to Jesus. His friends begged Jesus to touch him. Jesus took the man by the hand and led him outside the town. Jesus put spittle on the man's eyes and placed his hands on the man's eyes. "Can you see anything?" asked Jesus. The man was starting to see and replied "I can see people. They look like trees, but they are walking about". Jesus then placed his hands on the man's eyes again, and he saw clearly. He was healed and could see everything clearly.

Jesus, heal my friend (....) who is blind

Matthew 16.13-20

One day Jesus asked his disciples "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" The disciples replied "Some people say you are one of the famous prophets." Jesus then asked them "And what about you. Who do *you* say I am?" Peter answered "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus then said to Peter "Blessed are you, for my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. So I now say to you: you are Peter ('the rock') and on this rock I will build my church. I will give you the keys of the kingdom"

Jesus, Son of God, please help the church to continue your work on earth

Matthew 16.21-28



Jesus now began explaining to his disciples how he must go to Jerusalem to suffer, die and rise from the dead.

He also said "If you want to be my disciple, you must deny yourself, take up your own cross, and follow me. Selfishness will ruin your life. Self-sacrificing will bless your life. What use is it to have everything in this world yet miss out on Heaven?"

Jesus, please help me find my life by losing it in service of others

Luke 9.28-36

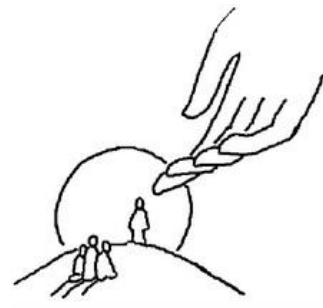


One day Jesus took his disciples Peter, James and John up a high mountain to pray. On the mountain, while Jesus was praying, his whole appearance changed. His clothes became brilliant as lightning. The prophets Moses and Elijah appeared and spoke with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus "Lord, how good it is for us to be here!" Then a bright cloud covered them with its shadow. From the cloud came a voice:

"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him".

When the voice had finished speaking, the disciples saw only Jesus in his normal appearance.



Jesus, Beloved Son of God, how good it is to spend time with you in prayer

Mark 9.14-29 A man brought his son to Jesus and pleaded: "Master, there is a spirit of dumbness in my son. When it takes hold of him, it throws him to the ground, and he foams at the mouth and goes rigid". They brought the boy. As soon as the spirit saw Jesus it threw the boy into convulsions. Jesus asked the father "How long has this been happening?" He replied "From childhood...please help us". Jesus said "Everything is possible if you have faith". The father cried out "Please increase my faith!" Jesus rebuked the evil spirit: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again". The spirit came out, but the boy seemed to have died. Jesus took him by the hand and helped him up. Jesus' disciples asked "Why were we unable to expel that spirit?" Jesus replied "Only prayer can drive out that kind of spirit".



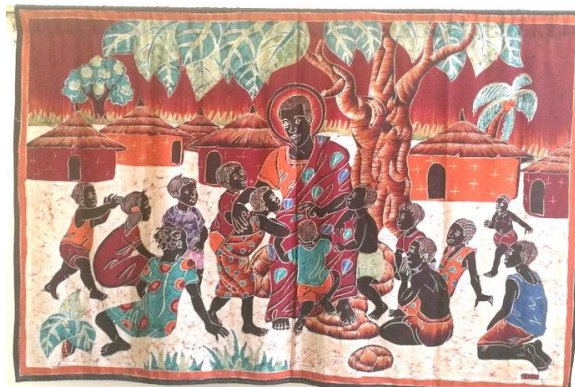
Jesus, please help me pray better, so that I can help other people more

Matthew 17.14-20 A man went down on his knees and pleaded with Jesus: "Lord, please help my son. He is crazy and does crazy things like falling into fire and into water. I asked your disciples to heal him, but they were not able to." There was an evil spirit oppressing the boy, so Jesus ordered the spirit to leave the boy. The boy was healed immediately. Jesus' disciples asked him "Why were we unable to expel that spirit?" Jesus answered "Because your faith is not strong enough"

Jesus, please increase my faith, so that my prayers can be of more help to other people

Mark 10:13 - 16 & 9: 37 & 42

Some people brought their little children to Jesus. They hoped Jesus would put his hands on the children and bless them. Jesus' disciples told the people to go away and not bother Jesus. But Jesus said "Don't stop the little children from coming to me". Then he put his hands on them and blessed them.



Jesus also said "Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me. But anyone who causes scandal to one of these little ones, commits a great crime"

Jesus, please help all children to know you from their earliest days. Please don't let parents prevent children from coming to you. Please heal children who have been scandalized by adults

Matthew 18.21-35

Peter asked Jesus "How many times must I forgive someone? 7 times?"

Jesus answered "Not 7, but 77 times

For the kingdom of heaven is like a king who cancelled the huge debt of one of his servants.

But that same servant refused to cancel the tiny debt of one of his fellow servants

So the king said to the servant: 'When you appealed to me, I had pity on you and cancelled your big debt. But you refused to have pity on your fellow servant who asked you for mercy. Therefore you must now go to prison until your big debt is paid.'



If you refuse to forgive other people, you are making yourself ineligible for God's forgiveness"

Jesus, please help me to forgive other people, just as you forgive me many times each day

John 7.1-11

Jesus now stayed in Galilee. He could not stay in Judea because the religious leaders wanted to kill him. Not even his brothers believed in him. In Jerusalem, no one spoke about him openly, for fear of the religious leaders

Jesus, people were scared to talk about you, your brothers didn't believe in you, and the leaders wanted to kill you. How small my problems are compared with yours

Luke 9.51-58

When the time came for Jesus to finish his life on earth, he resolutely took the road to Jerusalem.

As Jesus and his disciples traveled along, they met a man who said to him "I will follow you wherever you go". Jesus replied "Foxes have holes, and birds have nests, but I have nowhere to lay my head".

Jesus, give me courage to do what I should do



Luke 10.1-9

Jesus appointed 72 disciples to go ahead of him in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit.

He said to them "The harvest is rich, but the laborers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send laborers to his harvest.

When you go into a town, cure those in it who are sick, and say:

‘The kingdom of God is very near to you’”

Jesus, please inspire more people to make the spreading of the Good News their life's work

Luke 10.17-24

The 72 came back rejoicing. "Lord", they said, "even the devils submit to us when we use your name".

Jesus replied "Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot the whole strength of the enemy.

Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you.

Rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven

Blessed are the eyes that see what you see.

For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it".

Jesus, thank you for the gift of faith

John 7.37-39

During the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem, Jesus called out loudly in the Temple "If anyone is thirsty, come to me. Anyone who believes in me, come and drink!" As Scripture says "From his heart will flow fountains of living water".



Jesus was speaking of the Holy Spirit, which people who believed in him were to receive. The Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet been glorified

Holy Spirit flowing from the heart of Jesus, increase your influence in my life

John 7: 32, 45,46

The religious leaders sent the Temple police to arrest Jesus. When the police returned to the leaders without Jesus, the leaders asked "Why didn't you arrest him?". The police replied "There has never been anyone who has spoken like him".

Jesus, in the history of the world, there has never been anyone who has spoken about goodness and truth like you



John 8.1-11

While Jesus was teaching in the Temple, the religious leaders brought to him a woman who had been caught

committing adultery. The leaders said to Jesus "According to the Law of Moses, this woman should be stoned to death. What do you say?" They said this to test him, looking for something to use against him. Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. Since they kept up their questioning, he looked up and said to them "If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to cast a stone". Then he kept writing on the ground. The leaders went away, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman. Jesus said to her "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir", she replied. "Neither do I condemn you", said Jesus. "Go and don't sin any more"

**Jesus, what did you write on the ground?
The leaders' sins? "If you, O Lord, should
write a record of our sins, who could claim
innocence?" (Psalm 130)**

68

John 8: 12, 31,32

Jesus said to the people "I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will not walk in the dark. They will have the light of life. If you take my words to heart, you will be my disciples. You will learn the truth, and the truth will set you free"



**Jesus, give light to my life.
Increase my love for your
teaching. Help me learn
more about truth**

John 8: 42,46,56-58

Jesus said to the people "If God were your father, you would love me, since I have come from God and I speak the truth. You avoid the truth, because your father is the father of lies, the Devil. Abraham rejoiced at the thought of my coming. He saw it in the future and was glad". The people said "You are not yet 50 years old. How could you have seen Abraham?"

Jesus replied "I tell you, before Abraham ever was, I Am". The people then picked up stones to throw at Jesus for claiming to be God. But Jesus safely left the Temple.

**Jesus, you who existed as God the Son from all
eternity, please increase my love for the truth,
and help me avoid lies**

69

John 9.1-33

Once when Jesus was walking along the road, he saw a man who had been blind from birth

Jesus spat on the ground and made some mud with the spittle. He put the mud on the man's eyes, and said "Go and wash in the Siloam Pool"



The blind man went and washed, and came away able to see.

When the blind man heard people criticize Jesus, he said "Ever since the world began, it has never been recorded that someone opened the eyes of a man born blind. This man must be from God"

Jesus, please heal my blind friend (.. name ..)

John 10.1 – 10 Jesus said to the religious leaders "I am the gate of the sheepfold. If anyone enters the sheepfold by some other means than the gate, that person is a thief. The person who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the flock. The sheep hear his voice as he calls each one by name and leads them out of the sheepfold. When he has brought them out, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.



The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that people may have life, not just now, but for ever".

Jesus, Good Shepherd, please

help more and more people hear your voice and follow you

John 10.11-14 Jesus said to the religious leaders "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. A hired man, since he has no real concern for the sheep, abandons them and runs away if he sees a wolf coming. I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep, and my own sheep know me".

Jesus, Good Shepherd, please help me to be a good sheep, and a good shepherd

Matthew 11.25-30

One day Jesus prayed: "Father, Lord of heaven and earth, I am joyfully amazed at the way simple people understand and accept what I'm saying, while proud and clever people miss the plot"



And he said to the ordinary people:

"Come to me, all you who are treated unfairly by unjust religious laws.

I will give you peace and justice.

Learn from me, and you will know peace,

for I am gentle and humble of heart"

Jesus, please help people who are suffering from unjust religious laws

Luke 10.25-28

To test Jesus, a religious leader asked him in public "Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Jesus replied "What does the Law say?"

He replied "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and you must care for others as much as you care about yourself".

"You are correct", said Jesus, "do this and life is yours".

**Jesus, help me to love you with all my heart.
and to care for others
as much as I care about myself**



Luke 10.29-37

The religious leader then asked another question: "Who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied "A man on a journey was attacked by robbers. They beat him, took all he had, and left him seriously injured. A priest came by and saw the man, but did not help him. A temple worker also saw him, but did not help. But a lowly foreigner who saw him was moved with pity. The foreigner bandaged his wounds, and used his own donkey to take the man to an inn. He paid the innkeeper to look after the man



Which of the three was a neighbor to the injured man?"

The leader replied "The one who helped him"

Jesus then said "Go, and do the same"

Jesus, don't let me ignore people who need help

Luke 10.38-42

Jesus and his disciples visited the home of Martha and Mary. Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to him speaking. Martha complained "Lord, do you not care that my sister is not helping me with the serving?"



But the Lord answered "Martha, Martha, you worry and fret about so many things. Mary has chosen has made a better choice"

Jesus, please bless my serving and my listening!

Luke 11.1-4

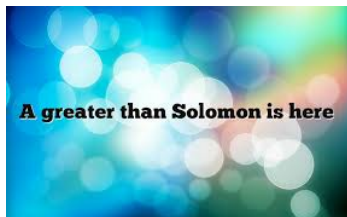
Once when Jesus had finished praying in private, one of his disciples asked him "Lord, teach us to pray". Jesus replied "Pray like this:

Father, may everyone love and honor you. Your kingdom come. Thank you for enough food for today. Forgive us as we forgive others. Save us in time of trial"

Jesus, please teach me how to pray

Luke 11.9-13 Jesus said to his disciples "Ask, and it will be given to you. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will open. If children ask their parents for something good, their parents will always give it to them. Even more so will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him"

**Heavenly Father,
please give me your Holy Spirit!**



Luke 11.27-32 While Jesus was speaking, a woman in the crowd called out "Blessed the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you". Jesus replied "Even more blessed are those who hear the word of God and put it into practice!" Jesus also said "On Judgement day, the Queen of the South will rise up with the people of this generation and condemn them, because she came from a distant country to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and there is something greater than Solomon here".

**Jesus, greater than Solomon,
please help me put your teaching into practice**

Luke 11.37-54

Jesus said to the religious leaders "You worry so much about cleaning dirty dishes, but don't care about having a dirty heart full of extortion and wickedness



At meetings and in the market, you like being treated as people of importance

But in fact you are like unmarked tombs that people walk on without knowing it.

You expect ordinary people to observe unreasonable laws, while you excuse yourselves from such laws

You don't care about obtaining real wisdom, and you prevent others from obtaining wisdom"

The leaders were stung by Jesus' words, and they intensified their efforts to trap him in his speech

Jesus, help religious leaders be sincere people

Luke 12.15-21



Jesus told the people this story: There was a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to

himself "What am I to do? I don't have enough room to store my crops"

Then he said to himself "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, and have a good time"

But God said to him "Fool! This very night your earthly life will come to an end. And all your possessions, who will get them?"

So it is when people store up treasure for themselves, instead of making themselves rich in the sight of God

Jesus, please help me to be satisfied with what I have, and not to be greedy

Luke 12.22-34 Jesus said to his disciples "Do not worry about food and clothing. As regards food, think of the birds. They don't sow or reap, and they have no homes to store things. Yet God feeds them. As regards clothing, think how the flowers grow with a beauty greater than that of Solomon's clothes. God will look after you more than he looks after the flowers. So, don't set your hearts on food and clothing. Don't go in for worry. Just set your hearts on God's kingdom, then food and clothing will not be a problem. Where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be too."

Jesus, please help me to put your friendship as number one in my life



Luke 12.35-38

Jesus said to his disciples "Be like people waiting for their master to return, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Be ready, for I will come at an hour you do not expect. When

someone is given a great deal, of that person more will be expected."

Jesus, you have given me so much. Please help me use my gifts and my situation to do more to help other people

Luke 13.18-35

Jesus said to the people "The kingdom of God is like a tiny seed planted in the ground. It grows and becomes a big tree, and the birds live in its branches.



The kingdom of heaven is like yeast mixed with flour until the flour is leavened all through. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you kill the prophets who are sent to you.

How often have I longed to gather your children, as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and you refused"



Jesus, may your kingdom grow in the hearts of more and more people

Luke 13.10-17

One Sabbath day Jesus was teaching in a prayer hall. There was a woman there who for 18 years had been possessed by a spirit which left her bent



over and unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said "Woman, you are rid of your infirmity" and he laid his hands on her. At once she was healed and could stand up straight, and she glorified God

Jesus, please heal the people I know who are bent over and can't stand up straight

Matthew 19.27-29

On behalf of all the disciples, Peter asked Jesus "What about us? We have left everything to follow you."

Jesus replied "You will be leaders in the church on earth. Also, anyone who has left home, family or country for the sake of my name, will receive a 100-fold blessing in this life, and will also receive eternal life in Heaven"

Jesus, please bless all Gospel workers

Luke 14.1-6

One Sabbath day Jesus went for a meal to the house of a religious leader. In the house Jesus saw a man with dropsy. Jesus asked the leaders present there "Is it against the Law to cure a man on the Sabbath?" But they remained silent. Jesus took the man, healed him, and sent him away. Then Jesus said to the leaders "Which of you here, if his son falls into a well, will not pull him out on a Sabbath day?" Again the leaders remained silent

Jesus, help me understand that "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath"

Luke 14.7-11

At the leader's house, Jesus noticed how the guests picked the places of honor. He said to them "When someone invites you to a meal, do not choose a seat of honor.



Rather, when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there. Maybe your host will ask you to move to a seat of honor. Everyone who exalts himself, will be humbled. Whoever humbles himself, will be exalted"

Jesus, please help me choose the lowest place

Luke 14.12-14

Jesus said to the meal guests "When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, family, or rich neighbors. Rather, when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind. That they cannot repay you means you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again"

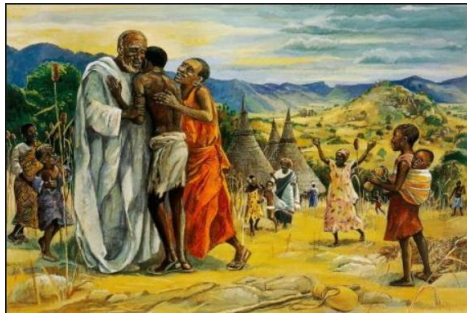
Jesus, help me do more to help poor people



Luke 15.11-24

Jesus told this story: a man had two sons. The younger said to his father "Father, give me the share of the estate that would come to me". So the father divided his property between them. A few days later, the younger son left for a distant land where he wasted his money in wild living. When he had used all his money, that country had a severe famine, and he began to feel the pinch. So he got a job on a farm feeding pigs. He would willingly have eaten the pigs' food, but no one offered him anything

Then he came to his senses and said "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and I am dying of hunger. I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then the son said "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son". But the father said to his servants "Quick! Bring



out the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have

been fattening, and kill it. We are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead, and has come back to life. He was lost, and is found".

Jesus, please help me understand how much you love me, no matter what mistakes I make

84

Luke 16.19-26

Jesus told this story to the people: There was a rich man who used to dress in expensive clothes and feast magnificently every day. At his gate there was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to eat scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.



In his torment in Hell, the rich man

looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus at his side. So the rich man cried out "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames". "My son", replied Abraham, "remember that during your life, good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here, while you are in agony"

Jesus, please help me understand how I should do more to help poor people **85**

Luke 17.11-19 On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus entered a village where 10 lepers came to meet him. They stood at a distance and called out "Jesus, Master, take pity on us!" Jesus said to them "Go and show yourselves to the priests". As they went away, their leprosy disappeared. Seeing



that he was healed, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. This made Jesus say "Were not all 10 healed? Where are

the 9 others?" **Jesus, please don't let me forget to say "thank you" when someone helps me**

Luke 18.1-7 Jesus told his disciples a story about the need to pray continually and never lose heart: There was a judge who had neither fear of God nor respect for people. In the same town there



was a widow who kept asking the judge for justice against someone who had wronged her. For a long time the judge refused to help her, but at last he said to

himself "I must give this widow her rights, or she will pester me to death". Even more so God will see that justice is done for those who cry out to him for help day and night, even if he delays to help them.

Jesus give me perseverance to pray each day 86

Luke 18.9-14



Some people prided themselves on being virtuous, and despised others. Jesus told them this story: Two men went to the Temple to pray, one a religious leader, the other a social outcast. The leader stood there and said "I thank you, God, that I am not greedy, unjust and adulterous like

other people such as this outcast here".

The outcast did not even raise his eyes, but beat his breast and said "God, be merciful to me, a sinner". The outcast, I tell you, went home a friend of God. The leader did not.



People who exalt themselves will be humbled.

People who humble themselves will be exalted.

Jesus, be merciful to me, a sinner 87

Matthew 19.1-9

One day some religious leaders put Jesus to the test by asking him "Is it against the Law of Moses for a man to divorce his wife?"

Jesus replied "God created male and female, for the two to become united as one body. What God has united, no one should separate".

The leaders then asked
"But why did Moses allow divorce?"



Jesus replied

"Moses allowed divorce because people were so hard of heart.

But divorce was not God's plan.

So I say to you, anyone who walks out on their partner and marries someone else, is guilty of adultery"

Jesus, please help married people stay together

Luke 18.18-23

A young man from a prominent family asked Jesus "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replied "You know the commandments: you must not commit adultery, you must not kill, you must not steal, you must honor your father and mother". The man answered "I have kept all these commandments all my life".

Jesus then said "There is still one higher goal: sell all you own, give the money to the poor, then come follow me".

But when the man heard this he was very sad, because he was very rich.

Jesus, please help me follow you the way you want me to follow you

Luke 18.31-34

Once again Jesus explained to the 12 apostles what would happen to him:

"Now we are going to Jerusalem. Everything written about me by the prophets will happen: I will be handed over to the pagans.

I will be mocked and spat on.

I will be scourged and put to death.

On the third day I will rise from the dead". But the apostles had no idea what his words meant.

Jesus, especially each Friday, please help me to remember you on the Cross

John 11.1-44

Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha lived in the village of Bethany. When Lazarus became very sick, the sisters sent a message to Jesus "Lord, your dear friend is very sick". By the time Jesus and his disciples arrived in Bethany, Lazarus was dead and buried for 4 days. Martha said to Jesus "If you had been here, my brother would not have died"

Jesus replied "I am the resurrection and the life.



If anyone believes in me, he will have life after death". Jesus said to Mary and Martha "Where have you put him?" Jesus cried as he went to

the tomb. The tomb was a cave with a stone at the entrance. Jesus said "Take the stone away". Then he called out in a loud voice "Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out, wrapped in burial clothes. Jesus said "Unwrap him and let him go free"

**Jesus, you are the Resurrection and the Life.
Please give eternal life to my friend (.. name ..)
who died recently**

90

John 11.46-54

The religious leaders had a meeting to decide what to do about Jesus. They said "If this man keeps on doing miracles, everyone will follow him. Then the Romans will see him as a threat, and they will wipe out our nation". The main leader said "It is better for one man to die for the people, than for the whole nation to be destroyed".

These words had more meaning than the leader realized, since Jesus was to die not just for the nation, but for the whole world.

Since the leaders wanted to kill him, Jesus went to a remote area near the desert, and stayed there with his disciples.

**Jesus, please help me better understand
how your death saved the world**



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Matthew 20.1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them the normal daily wage.

Then about 9am he went again to the market place. He saw more men without a job. He got them also to go to his vineyard. He promised to pay them a fair wage. About noon and again about 3pm he once more went to the market place and employed two more groups of men.

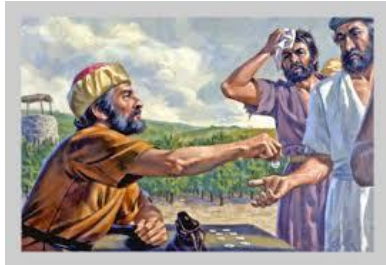
About 5pm he went one final time and employed one last group of men.

At sunset when the men came to be paid, the owner paid everyone a normal day's wage.

This made the dawn group unhappy. They grumbled and said "We have done a full day's work in the heat. Yet we got the same as those who did only one hour's work. This is not fair! "

The owner replied "I am paying you what we agreed to. Why do you begrudge my generosity?"

Jesus, please help me not to be jealous of your gifts to others



Matthew 20.20-28

The brothers James and John were two of Jesus' disciples.

One day their mother said to Jesus "When you become king, allow my sons to sit at your right and left".

Jesus said to James and John "Only my Father in heaven can allocate seats on my right and left"

The 10 other disciples were angry at James and John for seeking honor. So Jesus said to them all "In most places, people in power like to dominate and control others. But this is not to be your way of exercising authority

You must exercise authority by serving others, not dominating them, just as I came not to be served, but to serve, and to give my life as a ransom for the world"

Jesus, please help me want to help and serve other people, not dominate and control them



Luke 18.35-43

As Jesus entered Jericho, there was a blind beggar sitting by the road. People in the crowd told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by

So he called out "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me".

Some people told him to be quiet, but he just shouted all the louder "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me". Jesus stopped and asked him "What do you want me to do for you?"



He replied "Sir, let me see again".

Jesus said to him "Receive your sight. Your faith has saved you".

Instantly his sight returned, and he followed Jesus, praising God.

Jesus, please heal my blind friend (.. name ..)

Luke 19.1-9



In Jericho there was a wealthy man named Zacchaeus, a senior tax collector.

He wanted to see what kind of person Jesus was. But because of his short stature, he couldn't see over the crowd. So he

climbed a tree. Jesus saw him up the tree and said "Zacchaeus, come down, because I will stay at your house today"

Zacchaeus hurried down and welcomed Jesus warmly. People complained "He's gone to stay at the house of an outcast"

Zacchaeus replied "Sir, I am going to give half of my property to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I'll pay them back fourfold".

Jesus said to him "Today salvation has come to this house"

Jesus, please help more people to want to know and love you

John 12.1-8

Six days before the Passover, Jesus went to Bethany, for a dinner at the home of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. Mary put expensive ointment on Jesus' feet. Then she wiped his feet with her hair.



Judas Iscariot, the disciple who was going to betray Jesus, said "Why wasn't this ointment sold and the money given to the poor?"

He said this not because he cared about the poor, but

because he was a thief. He was in charge of the moneybag and would steal from it

Jesus replied "Leave her alone. She is anticipating and honoring my burial. Besides, the poor will always be with you. But I will soon be gone".

Jesus, help people in charge of money not to steal

Luke 19.28-40

When Jesus came near to Jerusalem, he sent two disciples to a nearby village to get a donkey colt which no one had ever ridden.

Jesus sat on the colt and began the descent from the Mount of Olives down the hill to Jerusalem.

The disciples spread their clothes on the road, and joyfully praised God for all the miracles they had seen.



They cried out "Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Some religious leaders told Jesus to stop the disciples from

calling out. Jesus replied "If these keep silence, the stones will cry out"

Jesus, you who came in the name of the Lord, we praise and love you



**DEAR JESUS,
I WELCOME YOU INTO MY HEART,
JUST AS THE PEOPLE WELCOMED YOU
ON YOUR ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM**

Luke 19.41-48 As Jesus caught sight of Jerusalem, he shed tears over it and said "How I wish you had accepted my message of peace. You will be totally destroyed, because you rejected God's offer of grace". Jesus then went into the Temple and drove out the sellers. "According to the Scripture", he said, "My house will be a house of prayer. But you have turned it into a robbers' den". Each day Jesus taught in the Temple. The leaders wanted to do away with him, but they didn't know how to, since most of the ordinary people had great respect for Jesus.

Jesus, don't let me ever reject your friendship

Matthew 21.12-16 When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, he went to the Temple. In the Temple there were money changers, and people selling pigeons. Jesus tipped over their tables and drove them out of the Temple. He said to them "My house is a house of prayer, but you have turned it into a place for robbery". Blind and lame people came to Jesus in the Temple. He healed them all. Then he went out of the city to the village of Bethany and spent the night there



**Jesus, please protect all places of prayer
from corruption**

Luke 20.45-47

After some leaders had asked him some trick questions, Jesus said to his disciples "Beware of the religious leaders who like to walk about in special clothes and love to be greeted obsequiously in the market places



They like the front seats in prayer halls and the places of honor at banquets

They like making a show of lengthy prayers

But at the same time they steal the property of widows

They will receive a severe sentence from God at the end of their lives.

Jesus, help religious leaders be good people

Luke 21.6-38

Jesus said to his disciples that Jerusalem would be destroyed and its people scattered throughout the world. He also spoke of how his followers would be persecuted, and of the end of the world: "The planets will be shaken, nations will be in agony, bewildered by the force of the oceans. Then they will see me coming in a cloud with great power and glory



To prepare for your own end of earthly life, stay faithful to prayer and goodness. Don't let your heart be coarsened by debauchery, drunkenness and material cares"

In this his final week, Jesus spent the daytime in the Temple, teaching. From early morning the people would gather round him to listen to him. Then he would spend the night on the Mount of Olives.

Jesus, help me be faithful to prayer and goodness

Matthew 25.31-46

Jesus said to his disciples:

When I come in glory at the end of the world,
all peoples of all times will be gathered in front of me

I will separate them,
like a shepherd separates sheep from goats

I will place the sheep on my right,
the goats on my left

I will say to those on my right
"Come and enter my kingdom.
For I was hungry, and you gave me food.
I was thirsty, and you gave me drink.
I was a stranger, and you made me welcome.
I was naked, and you clothed me.
I was sick, and you visited me.
I was in prison, and you came to see me"

Then those good people on my right will say

"Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you?
When did we see you thirsty and give you a drink?
When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,
naked and clothe you, sick or in prison and visit
you?"

I will answer
"Each time you helped and cared for a poor
person, you helped and cared for me"

Then I will say to those on my left "Go away
from me and join Satan and his angels in hell.

For I was hungry and you never gave me food.
I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to
drink. I was a stranger and you never made me
welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick
and in prison and you never visited me"

Those on my left will then ask "Lord, when did
we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked,
sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?"

I will answer "Each time you refused to help and
care for a poor person, you refused to help and
care for me".



Those on the left will then go to eternal
punishment.
Those on the right will go to eternal life

**Jesus, please help me do more for poor people.
Make me understand that when I help a poor
person, I help you**

Luke 22.1-6

Big crowds were in Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover which was only a few days away. The religious leaders were afraid that the crowds would prevent them from killing Jesus. But then Satan entered into Judas Iscariot who was one of the 12 apostles. Judas went to the leaders to plan how to capture Jesus. The leaders agreed to give Judas some money for his help. Judas then began looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus at a time when there were no crowds around.



**Jesus, please protect me from Satan's influence,
and from any sort of pride that might make
me want to abandon your friendship**

104

John 13.1-15 While Jesus and his disciples were eating a meal just before the Passover, Jesus got up from the table, removed his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist as an apron. He then poured water into a basin, and like a slave, began to wash the disciples' feet, wiping them with the towel



he was wearing. After washing their feet he said to them "You are right in calling me Master and Lord. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have humbly served you, you should humbly serve one another. I have given you an example, so that you may copy what I have done for you". **Jesus, please help us to serve other people humbly, just as you humbly served the disciples**

John 13.21-30

Jesus became visibly upset and said to his disciples at the meal "One of you is going to betray me. It is the one to whom I give a piece of bread that I have dipped in the dish". He dipped the piece of bread and gave it to Judas Iscariot. Immediately, Satan entered Judas. Jesus said to Judas "What you are going to do, do quickly". Judas left the meal. Night had fallen.

**Jesus please don't let me ever be disloyal to
you**

105

Matthew 26.17-29

On Passover Eve, Jesus ate a last meal with his apostles. While they were eating, Jesus told them he knew he would be betrayed by one of them. He told Judas he knew he was the betrayer

Then Jesus took some bread, blessed it and gave it to his apostles saying "Take this and eat it. This is my body". Then he took a cup of wine, blessed it and gave it to them saying "Take this and drink it. This is my blood"



Jesus, please help me understand how bread and wine become your body and blood when Christians celebrate the Eucharist



John 13.34-35

Jesus said to his disciples at the meal "I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples".

Jesus, please help all Christians to love one another as you have loved us

John 14.2 - 14.6

Jesus said to his disciples at the meal, "There are many rooms in my Father's house. I am going now to prepare a place for you.

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

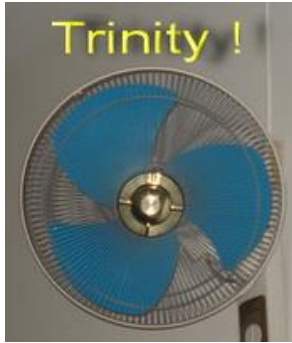
No one comes to the Father except through me"

Jesus, you are the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Please help more and more people follow you to find truth and life



John 14.8-21 At the meal, Jesus said to his disciples "To have seen me, is to have seen the Father. I am in the Father, and the Father is in me. Whatever you ask for in my name, I will do it, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you love me, you will keep my commandments.



I will ask the Father and he will give you another Friend to be always with you. This Friend is the Spirit of Truth who will be living in your heart. If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him

and make our home in his heart"

**Father, Jesus, Spirit of Truth
three Persons, one God
thank you for living in my heart**



John 14.23-27 At the meal, Jesus said to his disciples "If you love me, you will put my words into practice, and my Father will love you, and we shall make our home in your heart. The New Friend, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you

Peace I leave with you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give".

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit, please help me
understand how you live in my heart.**

Thank you for your peace

John 15.1-8

At the meal, Jesus said to his disciples "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Each branch in me that bears no fruit, he cuts off. Each branch that does bear fruit, he prunes to make it bear even more fruit.



As a branch cannot bear fruit by itself, but must remain part of the vine, so you can't bear fruit unless you remain in me. Cut off from me, you can do nothing.

If you remain in me, and my words are alive in your heart, you can ask for any good thing and you will get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit".

**Jesus, please help me stay close to you.
Help me bear much fruit**

John 15.9-13 At the meal, Jesus said to his disciples "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love by keeping my commandments, especially this commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A person can have no greater love than to lay down their life for their friends"



Jesus, thank you for loving us. Help us to love one another as you have loved us

John 15.18 – 16.1 At the meal, Jesus said to his disciples "If you belonged to the world, the world would be friendly to you. But because my choice withdrew you from the world, therefore the world is unfriendly to you.

Just as I am hated and persecuted, so you also will be hated and persecuted. As the Scripture says 'They hated me for no reason'. I am telling you these things now, so that when they happen, your faith will not be shaken

Jesus, if people are unfriendly because I am a Christian, please give me strength and courage

John 17.1-21

After saying many things to his disciples at the meal, Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed

"Father, my time has come. Give eternal life to everyone you have entrusted to me.

Eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

I have glorified you on earth, and finished the work you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with the glory I had with you before the world existed.

Protect those you have given me. Protect them from Satan. Consecrate them in the truth.

As you sent me into the world, so I am sending them into the world.

May all my followers be united, so that the world will believe it was you who sent me"

Jesus, please protect our world from lies and deception. Please bless people who witness to the truth in difficult situations

Matthew 26.30-46

After their last meal, Jesus said to his apostles "Tonight all of you will desert me". Peter said "I will never desert you". Jesus replied "Tonight before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times".

They came to a place with olive trees called Gethsemane. Jesus took Peter, James and John to a part of that area and asked them to pray with him.

Jesus was overcome with sadness and fear. He said to them "Sadness is filling my heart, as if my heart is dying. Please support me as I pray". Then he fell on his face and prayed for about an hour: "Father, don't let this suffering continue. But your will be done".

He stood up and found that the apostles were asleep. He said to them "Couldn't you stay awake one hour to support me?"

Three times he prayed the same way. Three times the apostles went to sleep. Then he said "Get ready. The one who is betraying me is coming"

Jesus, please help me give more time to prayer



Luke 22.47-53 While Jesus was speaking, a group of men arrived, led by Judas. One of Jesus' apostles used his sword to cut off the right ear of one of the men sent to arrest Jesus. Jesus told his apostles not to use their swords. Then touching the man's ear, he healed him. Jesus said to the men arresting him "This is your hour. This is the reign of darkness". **Jesus, you gave up your freedom for our salvation**



Luke 22.54-62 The men who arrested Jesus took him to the home of the main religious leader. Peter followed at a distance. As Peter sat by a fire in the courtyard, a servant-girl said "This man was with Jesus". Peter replied "Woman I do not know him". A little while later, another person said "You are one of them". Peter replied "I am not". About an hour later, a man said "He was certainly with them. He is from Galilee". Peter replied "I do not know what you are talking about". While he was still speaking, a rooster crowed, and the Lord looked straight at Peter, and Peter remembered what the Lord had said, "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times". Peter went outside and cried bitterly. **Jesus, don't let me ever deny that I know you**

John 18.19-27

The main religious leader interrogated Jesus about his teaching. Jesus told him "I have spoken openly in prayer halls and in the Temple. I have said nothing in secret. The people can tell you what I said"

At these words, one of the guards slapped Jesus in the face, saying "Don't speak to the leader like that". Jesus replied "If I said something wrong, point it out. But if there was nothing wrong with my words, why did you hit me?"



Meanwhile Peter was outside in the courtyard, keeping warm by a fire. Three times he was asked by different people if he was a disciple of Jesus. Three times he replied "I am not". After his third denial, a rooster crowed



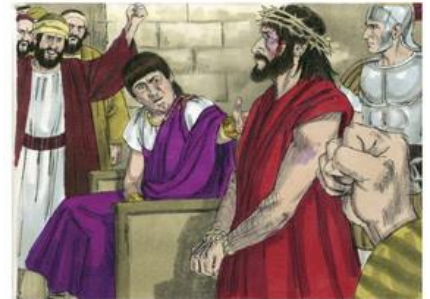
Jesus, on trial before the leaders, please bless everyone on trial today, in every country

John 18.28-40

The religious leaders took Jesus to the Roman governor, Pilate. Pilate asked Jesus "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus replied "My kingdom is not a kingdom of this world. But I am a king. I came into this world to bear witness to the truth"

After further questioning, Pilate said to the leaders "I find no case against him, so how about I release him according to the custom of releasing one prisoner at Passover?"



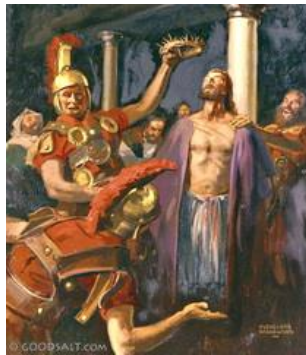
At this the leaders shouted "Not this man, but Barabbas". Barabbas was a bandit

Jesus, help me be a better witness to good values

John 19.1-3

Pilate then had Jesus taken away and scourged. The soldiers used thorns to make a crown and pushed this into Jesus' head. They dressed him in a purple cloak and mocked him saying "Hail, king of the Jews". They slapped him in the face

Jesus, scourged and made fun of, please help me not to hurt anyone by my words or actions



Matthew 27.27-31

After the Roman soldiers scourged Jesus, they made fun of him. They put a red cloak on him. They made a crown out of thorns. They put a reed in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him saying "Hail, king of the Jews". They spat on him. They took the reed and hit him with it. When they had finished making fun of him, they dressed him



in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

Jesus, please don't let me hurt other people by making fun of them

John 19.4- 16

Pilate now put Jesus on display and again told the leaders "I find no case against him"

The leaders replied "According to our Law he must die, since he claims to be the Son of God. If you free him, you are no friend of the Roman Emperor"

Eventually Pilate gave in to them and handed Jesus over to be crucified.

Jesus, please help all judges to stand up for the truth and not make false judgments



Luke 23.26-34



As Jesus was being led to the place of crucifixion, a man named Simon was coming into Jerusalem from the country. He was made to carry the crossbeam behind Jesus (.... Jesus was too weak after the scourging to keep carrying it)

Large numbers of people followed him, including women who mourned for him. Jesus said to them "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me. Weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For if this is how innocent people are treated, what will happen to people who are guilty?"

Two criminals were led out with Jesus to be crucified with him

Jesus, please help me to carry my cross each day

Luke 23.33-38

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals also, one on his right, the other on his left. Above his head was placed a sign "This is the King of the Jews".

Jesus prayed "Father, forgive them. They do not know what they are doing". The leaders made fun of him "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the Christ of God". The soldiers mocked him too: "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself".

Jesus, you forgave those who mocked you and crucified you. I forgive anyone who has been unkind to me

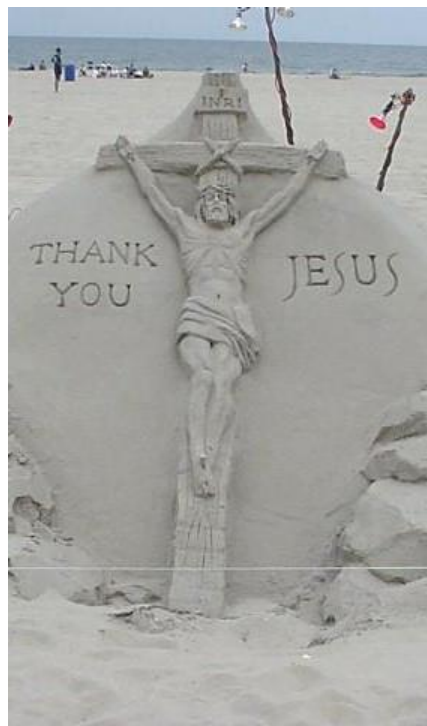
Luke 23.39-43 One of the criminals hanging on a cross mockingly said to Jesus "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well". But the other criminal rebuked the first one and said "We are paying the penalty for our crimes. But this man has done nothing wrong". "Jesus", he said, "remember me when you come into your kingdom". Jesus replied "I promise you, this day you will be with me in Paradise"



Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom

Matthew 27.45-54

Jesus was put on the cross about 9am. From about noon until 3pm there was darkness over all the land. About 3pm Jesus cried out the words of Psalm 22: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" A little while later he again cried out in a loud voice. Then he died.



At that moment the holy curtain in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and there was a violent earthquake. The Roman soldiers were terrified. Their leader called out "Truly this was a son of God".

Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for the salvation of the world

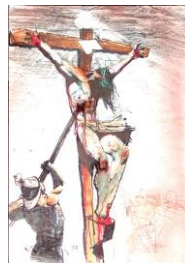
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John 19.25-30 Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. Seeing his mother and John the apostle standing near her, Jesus said to his mother "He is your son". Then to John he said "She is your mother". From then on, John regarded Mary as his own mother. Jesus said "My work is finished". Then he bowed his head and died



We adore you Lord Jesus and we praise you, because you have redeemed the world

John 19.31-37 The next day was the Passover. To prevent the bodies remaining on the crosses during the Passover, the soldiers broke the legs of the two men crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead. Instead of breaking his legs, they pierced his side with a spear. Immediately there came out blood and water. And so the Scriptures were fulfilled "Not one of his bones will be broken" and "They will look on the one they have pierced"



Jesus, help me understand how blood and water are symbols of the Eucharist and Baptism

121

Luke 23.50-56

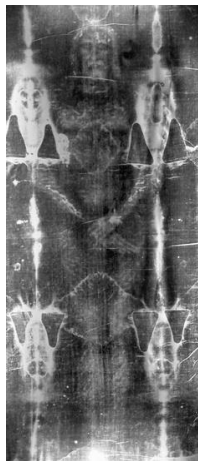
Joseph from the town of Arimathaea was a member of the religious leaders' council. He was a good and just man, and had not agreed to the killing of Jesus.



Late Friday afternoon, he went to Governor Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He took it down from the cross, wrapped it in a burial cloth, and put it in a rock tomb that had not yet been used.

The women from Galilee who had come to Jerusalem with Jesus went with Joseph to the tomb. Then they left to prepare burial spices and ointments. They planned to put these on Jesus' body after the Saturday Sabbath day of rest

Jesus in the tomb, please give eternal life to all the dead



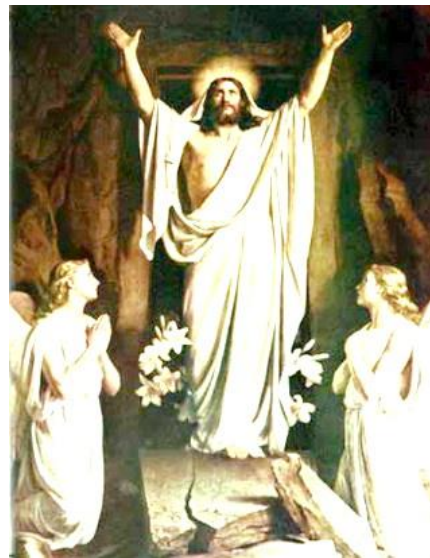
Luke 24.1-11

On Sunday morning, at daybreak, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. They found that the large stone which had been put at the tomb's entrance had been rolled away.

They entered the tomb and found that the body of Jesus was not there. Suddenly two men in brilliant clothes appeared at their side. The men said to them

"Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here. He has risen, just as he said he would".

The women told all this to the eleven apostles. But the apostles did not believe them.



Jesus, increase my faith in your resurrection

John 20.1-10

Before dawn the next morning, Sunday, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. She saw the stone had been moved from the tomb's entrance.

She ran to Peter and John and said "Someone has taken the Lord out of the tomb".



They ran back to the tomb. Peter went in first. He saw that the linen cloths were on the ground. But the cloth that had been around Jesus' head was not on the ground. It was neatly folded and in a place by itself. Then John went into the tomb. He saw, and he believed.

**Jesus, I believe you rose from the dead.
Please increase my faith**

John 20.11-18

Peter and John went home. Mary Magdalene remained at the tomb, crying. When she looked inside the tomb, she saw two angels in white. She also saw Jesus standing there, though she did not recognize him. Jesus said "Woman, why are you crying? Mary thought he was the gardener so she said to him "If you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him"



Jesus said "Mary" and she recognized him.

Jesus then said "I will ascend to my Father"

Mary went and told the disciples all she had seen and heard.

**Jesus, please bless people who are crying at
funerals today. May awareness of your
presence bring them peace and strength for the
days ahead**



Luke 24.13-35

That same day, two of Jesus' disciples were on their way from Jerusalem to the village of Emmaus, about 7 km from Jerusalem. As they talked about all that had happened, Jesus himself joined them as they walked along. But they did not recognize him. When

Jesus asked them what they were talking about, they said "About Jesus of Nazareth, and how our leaders had him crucified. And how some women in our group went to Jesus' tomb and were told by angels that he was alive". Jesus then explained the Scripture passages which predicted his suffering and resurrection. Jesus joined the two men for an evening meal. During the meal, he blessed some bread and gave it to them. They then recognized him.

But he immediately vanished from their sight. They said to each other "Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" Straight away they returned to Jerusalem where the eleven apostles said to them "Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen". Then they told their story of what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized Jesus at the breaking of bread.

**Jesus, please make my heart burn within me
as I read the Bible**

Luke 24.36-49

The disciples were still talking about what had happened when suddenly Jesus himself stood among them. At first they were terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said "Look at my hands and feet. Yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves. A ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have". Their fear turned to joy but they still couldn't believe what they were seeing. So he asked them for something



to eat, and they gave him some grilled fish which he ate in front of them.

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and he said "So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer, and on the third day rise from the dead. And that in his name repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations. Soon I will send down to you what the Father promised (the Holy Spirit). Stay in Jerusalem until you are clothed with this power from on high"

**Jesus, increase my faith in your resurrection,
and open my mind to understand the Bible
better**

John 20.21-29

That same Sunday evening, the doors were locked in the room where the disciples had gathered, for fear of the religious leaders. But Jesus appeared and stood before them, saying "Peace be with you".

He showed them his hands and his side and said "As the Father sent me, so I am sending you". Then he breathed on them, saying "Receive the Holy Spirit"

Thomas, one of the 12 apostles, was not there that night. When the other disciples said they had seen the Lord, he replied "Unless I see and touch his wounded body, I refuse to believe"

Eight days later, the group was again in the same house, with the doors locked. This time Thomas was with them.

Jesus again appeared and stood before them saying "Peace be with you". Then he said to Thomas "Put your hand into my side. Doubt no longer, but believe". Thomas replied "My Lord and my God!"



Jesus said "You believe because you can see me. Blessed are those who have not seen me and yet believe"

Jesus, my Lord and my God, I believe in you. Help me live and grow and die in your friendship 128

John 21.1-14

Jesus also appeared to the disciples at the Sea of Galilee, when Peter, John and 5 other disciples were fishing. They had spent all night in their boat, but had caught nothing

In the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, though the disciples did not recognize him. He called out "Lower your net on the right side of the boat"

Immediately the net filled with fish. John realized that the man on the shore was Jesus

John said to Peter "It is the Lord", and they returned to the shore, which was only about 100 meters away

The net had 153 big fish, but did not break

Jesus had prepared some bread. He also had some fish cooking on a charcoal fire. He said "Come and have breakfast"



Jesus, Risen Lord, without you, no fish. With you, 153 fish. Please help me be more aware of your presence in my life

John 21.15-17

After they had eaten, Jesus said to Peter "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter answered



"Yes Lord, you know I love you". Jesus said to him "Feed my lambs". A second time Jesus asked him "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He replied

"Yes Lord, you know I love you". Jesus said to him "Look after my sheep". Then he asked a third time "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" An unhappy Peter replied "Lord, you know everything. You know I love you". Jesus said "Feed my sheep".

Jesus, you know I love you. Increase my love

John 21.25 & 20.31

Jesus did many other things. If all of them were written down, so many books would be needed that no library could hold them all. This book has been written to help you believe that Jesus is the Saviour, the Son of God. Through your faith in Jesus, may you have eternal life

Jesus, Son of God, thank you for John's Gospel. May more and more people know you and love you

Matthew 28.16-20

The 11 apostles went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him in worship.



Jesus said to them "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to understand and live according to my words. And know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time"

Jesus, "God-with-us", please help us live our lives according to your teaching

Luke 24.50-53



Jesus then took his disciples out of Jerusalem to the village of Bethany.

Lifting up his hands, he blessed them.

As he blessed them, he was carried up to heaven.

They worshipped him, then went back to Jerusalem full of joy. They were continually in the Temple praising God

Jesus, please increase my faith in you as the One who came down from heaven, and who went back to heaven