

IN PRAYER

8 prayers for daily encouragement





Enduring through Life's Struggles

Sometimes the aches on my heart feel like they're overwhelming me with worry and pain. I allow the negativity of the day to overtake all that You have blessed me with. I grant Satan the ability to step in and take control of my thoughts. Lord, please keep me focused on You. Remind me of Your promises. You bless those who do what is right. You will provide all that I need. You will never forsake those who love You. You are just. You are fair. You are all-knowing. You see the pain and know the deep wounds that run so deep. You understand how my past pains are weaved into my present circumstances, causing emotions to arise like old files from my memory when fresh struggles occur.

Help me endure through this current struggle with Your strength and not my own. Give me a fresh perspective and not allow Satan to steal my joy. Provide me with a renewed focus to view my circumstances differently. Give me wisdom to make wise decisions. Direct me in Your path, not on one I desire, that may lead me astray. Open up opportunities for me to be used by You and remain humble in spirit. Remind me that recognition, fame or praise is not the end goal.

Allow this time in my life to be used to Your greatest purpose. Work in my heart and allow me to gain wisdom to learn from this current circumstance. Help me use what You've taught me to encourage and humbly share with others in their walk with You. Use me and refine me into who You've created me to be, not the wishful desires and selfish aspirations I have for myself.

Don't let me draw back in fear, but give me courage to remain steadfast and fulfill the purpose You have for my life. Don't let discouragement overtake my drive to live my life for the fullest intent You have for me.

I may not understand why You're allowing this, but I trust that it is being used for something incredible beyond what I can see. You're plans are far beyond my grasp and I can rest in You knowing that whatever You have planned for my life will be anything but incredible. Help me to trust that You are in control and nothing is out of place or forgotten. You've got this. You see. You care.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. // Ephesians 3:20



Seeking Direction

My life feels so uncertain right now. My future is unclear. I'm unsure of what You're desiring from me. What do you want me to do during this season of my life? What are You trying to teach me? I want to be used by You and follow Your will, but sometimes I feel like my life is stuck in a rut of mundane tasks and uncertainty. Remind me that You are using even the mundane in my life to teach me and test my character.

In times of questioning and uncertainty help me to rely on You for direction. Guide my steps and bring along opportunities for me to bring You glory. Let me be a light for You. Direct me to people who I can encourage, and bring others alongside me who will strengthen and encourage me in my walk with You. Direct me into areas that You desire to use me. Help take the talents You have given me and provide me with opportunities to use them wisely.

Give me courage to place my faith in You and not grow fearful when I'm seeking You for direction in my life. Lead me to where You desire me to go. Show me the way, I need Your help. Give me the confidence to trust in Your plan and not hesitate or grow fearful in accomplishing what You desire me to do. Remind me that my plans will fail, but Yours are for my best. You've got this. You're working.

Don't let me grow doubtful when I can't feel You near. Keep me faithful to You and not stray from Your will for my life. Keep me on the path You have established for my life. Help me to continually seek after You to direct my paths and lead me to places only You desire me to go. Give me wisdom to make wise decisions and not make hasty choices based on my desires or emotions. Don't let me become fearful, but give me peace to know You will be by my side even through the darkest of valleys.

When I don't know what lies ahead, I know You've got a plan that You just need me to trust in. Give me the faith and endurance to not give up. Help me be courageous and brave enough to do what You have called me to do. Direct and lead me Lord, I need You to pull me through and lead me in the direction You desire for my life.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. // Psalm 32:8



Letting Go

There are things I hold onto so tightly. Hurts that seem to run too deep for me to let go of. Why can't I let go of these things that are gripping my joy? You see the pain I hide inside. You know the deep wounds that keep flooding back in like rushing waves. You know the struggle I have in letting go and giving them over to You.

Please help provide me with the strength to let go. Give me a fresh focus to see things in a new light and remember these circumstances aren't defining me, but rather it's how I react through them. Help me to let go of the pain, hurt and anger and know that You are taking care of it. It's in Your hands, and that's the best place for it to be.

When I'm harboring on these thoughts, it's only hurting me. Help me to give it over to You so you can relieve me from the anxiety that weighs my heart down. I may not understand the pain. I may not have an explanation as to why this is occurring, but help me to trust that You've got this and You are taking care of it. You see, and that's all that matters.

Help me to finally let go of this pain and completely surrender it into Your hands. I don't want to carry this anger and anxiety around anymore. I'm tired of it gripping my joy and stealing away opportunites for me to live my life to the fullest intent You have for me. Help me to trust that You are using this for my best and I don't need to have all the answers to let go. Show me what I need to learn from this circumstance and move on. Direct me with what You want me to do now. Help me make wise decisions to learn from this circumstance. Give me wisdom to apply it to my life and strengthen my character. Take control of my life and lead me. I need Your help. Step in and provide me with endurance to get through. Give me the strength to finally release it over to You and know You've captured how it greatly impacted my heart. You'll take care of it and one day it will all be made right.

You must put away all bitterness, anger, wrath, quarreling, and slanderous talk—indeed all malice. Instead, be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you. // Ephesians 4:31-32

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Focused on God

This world has left my head spinning and my heart raging. Some days You know I grow so distracted in all that is going wrong in my life. The things I desire are withheld from my reach. The effort I put in seems to go unacknowledged. I feel forgotten and overlooked. I'm trying to live for You, but the frustrations of daily life consistently scream for my attention. I can't seem to control the voices in my head resounding from every side. All the expectations. All the judgments. All my doubts. All my regrets. I can't seem to find a moment of peace to listen for Your voice. Sometimes You seem so silent amidst the deafening voices that fill my mind with doubts and fears.

Lord, please provide me with a renewed focus on You. Take these thoughts, doubts, frustrations, judgements and fears and replace them with peace only You can offer. Set my thoughts on Your truths, not Satan's lies. Keep me focused on Your view of me. Remind me of Your promises. Don't let me become choked in Satan's deceptions. Set me free from the negativity I've been wallowing in. Give me a clear perspective of my situations. Give me wisdom in what You desire me to do.

This world so easily entangles me in it's web of lies and temptations. Keep my focus on You and don't let me become entrapped into the ways of the world. Remind me that this world and the satisfactions it entices me with will never completely satisfy the place that was designed for only You to fill. Help me to find a deeper meaning to what I'm going through. Let me break through the surface and discover a whole new purpose for why You have me here. Keep me strong. Don't let me lose heart when the going gets rough. Give me endurance to continue on when I feel weary and discouraged. Remind me that You are using this to benefit me. Help my character be strengthened and I would come out stronger on the other side. I want to remain focused on You so that the distractions of this world will fade into the distance. Thank You for never leaving my side even when I've put the voices of this world before Yours. When thoughts are flooding in, keep me focused only on You so I am capable to do what You have called me to do.

These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. // Matthew 15:8

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Don't Give Up

Life has been difficult recently. I feel as though every day is a struggle to endure through. Each day brings new burdens to bear. I feel like I will never overcome the issues I'm facing. I can't get out of this rut. I'm growing weary in finding hope. I'm struggling to continue fighting when it seems I've been in this battle for so long. Nothing seems like it ever changes.

Lord, help give me the strength to continue. I'm growing weary in doing what's right, when it seems as though it's going unnoticed. Thank You for being a fair God and bringing ultimate justice. You see the effort and You know every detail. Thank You for being fair when this world disregards integrity.

I know You are using this time to teach me something. Help me to discover what you want me to learn. Let me use this time to grow closer in You and rely on You for renewal. I trust that You are still working even when I can't see You. Let me finish this race running wholeheartedly after You and not focused on all that is going wrong in my life. Use this tiny life of mine for something of worth.

Don't let Satan get a hold of my determination. Keep me focused on You and not lose sight of the end goal. Don't let me lose heart when it feels like all my effort is cast aside. Provide me with a renewed strength and perspective to continue on when all the signs are telling me to give up. Help me not to lose heart when I feel like I don't belong in this world. Lord, it gets so hard to keep living for You sometimes. Keep me strong when the world entices me to give in to it's deceptions. Remind me to stand up for what I believe and not give in when it seems like everyone is lowering their standards. Keep me rooted in Your truth and hold firm to Your truths when my strength is failing.

Remind me of my purpose here. Don't let Satan deceive me. Don't let him win my attention. Don't let me give in. Don't let me lose heart. Remind me me that You are capable of the impossible. Be my strength. Be my hope. Be my drive that helps get me back up when I question whether it's worth it. Let me be an example of You. Don't let this world get such a hold of me that I grow discouraged in living for You. Keep me focused. Keep me strong. Be my reason to keep the fight and finish strong!

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. // Galatians 6:9

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Harboring Anger

You know how I let my frustrations get the best of me. You know how my anger, that I try so hard to suppress day after day, can often explode out of proportion at times. You've seen how I let my aggravation overtake Your voice. I harbor on the perceptions of others and grow weary in trying to serve You when my heart feels battered and worn. I'm growing weary Lord.

Lord, help soften my hardened heart. Give me a new perspective. Remind me that my circumstances, as painful as they may seem, don't need to change. My heart does. Provide me with Your truths to grip onto instead of the anger I'm harboring in my heart.

You've promised that You are near to the brokenhearted. You save those who are crushed in spirit, but the evil you turn away from. Draw near to me during this time. Remind me that You are a just God and will bring all deception to light one day.

Keep me focused on You and how I react to my circumstances. Let me be a light. Provide me with the words to say to be an honorable example of You. Don't let my emotions and self-pity get in the way of me bringing glory to You. Help use me during this time to be an example for You, even when I feel so wounded inside.

Don't let this frustration cause my heart to grow hardened to Your grace that I should be displaying to others. Provide me with Your love when I feel too bruised; help me extend it to those who battered my heart with pain.

Lord, forgive me for allowing this anger to well up within me. Forgive me for taking control and seeking revenge, when it's not my place to judge. Take this heavy weight I've been carrying around and take control. I know You will bring justice. You are taking care of rightful punishment. You see it all. Ungrip my hands and help me to let go. Work through the situation and use it for Your glory. Give me a renewed focus and a peace knowing You are seeking to refine me through this time. Let me grow through this and not be overcome.

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. // Romans 12:19

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Enduring the Wait

Another day ends and my heart still awaits expectantly for You to open the door that I've been knocking on. When will the time come that You will supply a "yes" to the incessant prayers I've been praying? Lord, it feels like You're trying to withhold something essential from me. Why do You keep me in this season of waiting? Will You ever open this door that seems like it will never be opened?

I'm growing weary in trusting that You are working even while I'm waiting. Sometimes I can't understand how this can bring something good. I've trusted You with my circumstances and have tried to live for You, but it doesn't seem like the prayers I've been praying will ever be answered to my liking.

Remind me Lord when my doubts arise, and when my prayers feel like they're going into a dark void, You always hear me. You take captive every thought and prayer that I pray. You hear me when I call. You desire the very best for my life. Remind me that when I'm waiting, You are preparing or protecting me from something that You see up ahead that would harm me or not be beneficial at this current time. You are working in my life when all I see is a "fog" of uncertainty.

Keep me focused on You during this waiting season. Although it seems neverending, I trust that You will bring good from it. Remind me that Your plan is best. You have divine knowledge while I only can understand a tiny piece of Your master plan. Help me to live a life for You while I wait. Don't let me lose sight of Your plan for my life and get caught up in all that I don't have that I fail to live a life that glorifies you. Let me use this time of waiting as an opportunity to focus on You and grow closer to You than if I had what I desired. If I'm desiring something wrong, please take this desire from my heart.

Remind me that by waiting it is granting me the opportunity to be strengthened in my relationship with You. You know what I need and You will provide a "yes" when, and if, the time is right. And if the answer is "no" give me the faith in You to know that You are doing it for my best. Help me to find contentment knowing that You have a special purpose for all that occurs in my life. Help me to let go of the plans I have for my life and release them into Your guidance.

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord. // Psalm 27:14

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A Thankful Heart

Please forgive me for not being more thankful for all that You've done for me. Thank you for providing for my every need and blessing me with things I've overlooked and failed to notice. Thank You for closing doors and protecting me from something harmful, that I thought would fulfill my desires. Thank You for those darkest moments that drew me closer to You, even when I thought You were breaking my heart. Thank You for remaining by my side, even when I chose to neglect You. Thank You for being my best friend when the world cast me aside and I needed Your shoulder to cry on. Thank You for valuing my worth and looking deeper than the surface, when others failed to see the real me. Thank You for taking the time to always and listen to the burdens on my heart and understand the pain I hide.

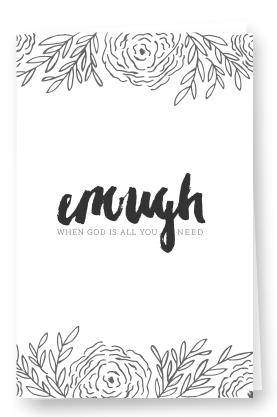
Thank You for providing me with Your Word to go to in times of distress to find encouragement, and using it to speak directly to my heart. Thank You for Your intimate presence. Knowing You are near and working in my life calms my anxious heart and reminds me that I don't have to be in control of my uncertain future. Thank You for using my life and giving me an eternal purpose that will far outlast this temporary home.

Please give me a renewed focus to be reminded of all that You have done in my life. Don't let me lose sight of all that You have done so that I grow worried for my future. You have blessed me with so much and have always been present through every trial and dark night. Even though each season brought it's own worries, tears and uncertainty, I thank You for using it to refine me and prepare me for who You wanted me to become. Words don't seem like enough to extend the gratitude from my heart that I so often fail to express, but I know You know my heart and don't need compelling words to convey the thankfulness in my heart for all You've done.

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him. // Psalm 28:7

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