

## Prayers

### The Lord's Prayer

“This, then, is how you should pray:

‘Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.””

*(New International Version Bible, 1978/2011. Matthew 6:9–13)*

### Lord, Lord, Open Unto Me

Open unto me, light for my darkness  
Open unto me, courage for my fear  
Open unto me, hope for my despair.  
Open unto me, peace for my turmoil  
Open unto me, joy for my sorrow  
Open unto me, strength for my weakness  
Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion  
Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins  
Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness  
Open unto me, love for my hates  
Open unto me, Thy Self for myself  
Lord, Lord, open unto me!

By Howard Thurman

## **Prayers**

### **Blessings to Pray over Youth**

Lord, while the world adolescents and young adults need to rise, be seen, noticed, and succeed, help me teach them you receive them just as they are. May youths know you accept the least and are always ready to forgive and love and be merciful.

Lord, please let children in need never lose hope. With so many giving up and giving in, believing there is nothing left for them here in this world, please pierce their hearts with your hope. I know you are their only hope that will last.

Adapted from Micha Maddox (June 24, 2022).

### **Prayer for America**

Our Father and Our God,

We praise You for Your goodness to our nation, giving us blessings far beyond what we deserve. Yet we know all is not right with America. We deeply need moral and spiritual renewal to help us meet the many problems we face.

Convict us of sin. Help us to turn to You in repentance and faith. Set our feet on the path of Your righteousness and peace. We pray today for our nation's leaders. Give them the wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to do it.

You have said, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." May this be a new era for America, as we humble ourselves and acknowledge You alone as our Savior and Lord.

This we pray in Your holy name, Amen.

- Billy Graham