

Favorite Quotes on Prayer Ministry

Pastor Steve Durkac

www.stevedurkac.org

Here is a collection of some of my favorite quotes by various ministers, Christian writers, and prayer warriors on the topic of prayer that I share with you here in hopes that you will find inspiration, encouragement, and motivation to pray.

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"Some people pray just to pray and some people pray to know God." –Andrew Murray

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"There is a mighty lot of difference between saying prayers and praying." –John G. Lake

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"Prayer can do anything that God can do." –E. M. Bounds

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"If any of you should ask me for an epitome of the Christian religion, I should say that it is in one word – prayer." –Charles Spurgeon

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"You may pray for an hour and still not pray. You may meet God for a moment and then be in touch with Him all day. –Fredrik Wisloff

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"I have so much to do that I spend several hours in prayer before I am able to do it."—John Wesley

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"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had absolutely no other place to go." –Abraham Lincoln

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"Always respond to every impulse to pray. The impulse to pray may come when you are reading or when you are battling with a text. I would make an absolute law of this – always obey such an impulse." --
Martyn Lloyd-Jones

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"Wishing will never be a substitute for prayer." –Ed Cole

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"I am one who believes that with God nothing is hopeless – that all things are possible through prayer." –
Charles L. Allen

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"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?" –Corrie Ten Boom

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"Pray often, for prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge for Satan –John Bunyan

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"Of all the duties enjoined by Christianity none is more essential and yet more neglected than prayer." –
François Fénelon

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"The only way to Heaven is prayer; a prayer of the heart, which every one is capable of, and not of reasonings which are the fruits of study, or exercise of the imagination, which, in filling the mind with wandering objects, rarely settle it; instead of warming the heart with love to God, they leave it cold and languishing." –Jeanne Guyon

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"We must alter our lives in order to alter our hearts, for it is impossible to live one way and pray another."
–William Law

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"The Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer is repeated daily by millions who have not the slightest intention of letting anyone's will be done but their own." –Aldous Huxley

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"Is the Son of God praying in me, or am I dictating to Him?...Prayer is not simply getting things from God, that is a most initial form of prayer; prayer is getting into perfect communion with God. If the Son of God is formed in us by regeneration, He will press forward in front of our common sense and change our attitude to the things about which we pray." –Oswald Chambers

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"Those who know God the best are the richest and most powerful in prayer. Little acquaintance with God, and strangeness and coldness to Him, make prayer a rare and feeble thing." –E. M. Bounds

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"How often have we prayed something like, "O Lord, be with cousin Billy now in a special way"? Have we stopped to consider what it is we're requesting? Imagine that you are a parent who is preparing to leave your children with a babysitter. Would you dream of saying, "O Betsy, I ask you now that you would be with my children in a special way?" No way. You would say, "Betsy, the kids need to be in bed by 9 pm. They can have one snack before their baths, and please make sure they finish their homework. You can reach us at this number if there's any problem. Any questions before we go?" We are very specific with our requests and instructions for our babysitters. We want them to know specifics. It should be no different with prayer." –David Jeremiah

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"Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. Not that it is necessary, in order to make known to God what we are, but in order to enable us to receive Him. Prayer does not bring God down to us, but brings us up to Him." –Ellen White

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"There is a general kind of praying which fails for lack of precision. It is as if a regiment of soldiers should all fire off their guns anywhere. Possibly somebody would be killed, but the majority of the enemy would be missed." –Charles Haddon Spurgeon

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"When a Christian shuns fellowship with other Christians, the devil smiles. When he stops studying the Bible, the devil laughs. When he stops praying, the devil shouts for joy." –Corrie Ten Boom

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"When I pray, coincidences happen, and when I don't pray, they don't." –William Temple

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"Faith in a prayer-hearing God will make a prayer-loving Christian." –Andrew Murray

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"Do you know what prayer is? It is not begging God for this and that. The first thing we have to do is to get you beggars to quit begging until a little faith moves in your souls." –John G. Lake

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"Those who do not believe do not pray. This is a good functional definition of faith. Faith prays, unbelief does not." –John A. Hardon

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"Pray, and let God worry." –Martin Luther

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"Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers, pray for powers equal to your task." –Phillips Brooks

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"This is our Lord's will... that our prayer and our trust be, alike, large." –Julian of Norwich

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"If you can't pray a door open, don't pry it open." –Lyell Rader

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"God's answers are wiser than our prayers." –Unknown

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"There are more tears shed over answered prayers than over unanswered prayers." –Teresa of Avila

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"God does not delay to hear our prayers because He has no mind to give; but that, by enlarging our desires, He may give us the more largely." –Anselm of Canterbury

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"We waste most of our time trying to get God to do something He has already done—or praying for God to do something He told us to do." –Jacquelyn K. Heasley

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"If God will do whatever He wishes, regardless of whether we pray or not, then we do not need to pray at all, and the Lord's instructions on praying for the Kingdom and the Will are superfluous. But the truth is that God waits for a Remnant to rise up and to pray in agreement with His Purpose before He does anything - He will do nothing apart from the Church. Apart from HIM, we CAN do nothing; apart from US, He WILL do nothing." –Chip Brogden

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"We lean to our own understanding, or we bank on service and do away with prayer, and consequently by succeeding in the external we fail in the eternal, because in the eternal we succeed only by prevailing prayer." –Oswald Chambers

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"The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men...Men of prayer." –E. M. Bounds

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"Prayer in its highest form is agonizing soul sweat." –Leonard Ravenhill

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"How different the world would look, how different the state of our nation would be, if there were more sanctified priestly souls! These are souls who have the power to bless, for they intercede with sanctified

hearts. They never begin their daily time of intercessory prayer without having first brought to the cross all that is unholy in their lives, so that their old self can be crucified there with Jesus, the sacrificial Lamb." – Basilea Schlink

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"The Church has not yet touched the fringe of the possibilities of intercessory prayer. Her largest victories will be witnessed when individual Christians everywhere come to recognize their priesthood unto God and day by day give themselves unto prayer." –John R. Mott

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"We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties." –Oswald Chambers

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"Why is it so important that you are with God and God alone on the mountain top? It's important because it's the place in which you can listen to the voice of the One who calls you the beloved. To pray is to listen to the One who calls you "my beloved daughter," "my beloved son," "my beloved child." To pray is to let that voice speak to the center of your being, to your guts, and let that voice resound in your whole being." –Henri Nouwen

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"So when we sing, 'Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,' we are not thinking of the nearness of place, but of the nearness of relationship. It is for increasing degrees of awareness that we pray, for a more perfect consciousness of the divine Presence. We need never shout across the spaces to an absent God. He is nearer than our own soul, closer than our most secret thoughts." –A.W. Tozer

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"The lover of silence draws close to God. He talks to Him in secret and God enlightens him." –John Climacus

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"Tell God all that is in your heart, as one unloads one's heart, its pleasures and its pains, to a dear friend. Tell God your troubles, that God may comfort you; tell God your joys, that God may sober them; tell God your longings, that God may purify them; tell God your dislikes, that God may help you conquer them; talk to God of your temptations, that God may shield you from them: show God the wounds of your heart, that God may heal them. If you thus pour out all your weaknesses, needs, troubles, there will be no lack of what to say. Talk out of the abundance of the heart, without consideration say just what you think. Blessed are they who attain to such familiar, unreserved intercourse with God." –Francois Fenelon

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"Our ordinary views of prayer are not found in the New Testament. We look upon prayer as a means for getting something for ourselves; the Bible idea of prayer is that we may get to know God Himself." – Oswald Chambers

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"If you are sick, fast and pray; if the language is hard to learn, fast and pray; if the people will not hear you, fast and pray, if you have nothing to eat, fast and pray." –Frederick Franson

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"Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons; but they are helpless against our prayers." –J. Sidlow Baxter

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"Notice, we never pray for folks we gossip about, and we never gossip about the folk for whom we pray! For prayer is a great deterrent. –Leonard Ravenhill

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"God never gives us discernment in order that we may criticize, but that we may intercede. –Oswald Chambers

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"There is nothing that makes us love a man so much as praying for him." –William Law

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"Rich is the person who has a praying friend." –Janice Hughes

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"A servant of the Lord stands bodily before men, but mentally he is knocking at the gates of heaven with prayer." –John Climacus

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"It is necessary to rouse the heart to pray, otherwise it will become quite dry. The attributes of prayer must be: love of God, sincerity, and simplicity." –John of Kronstadt

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"Whether we think of or speak to God; whether we act or suffer for him; all is prayer when we have no other object than his love, and the desire of pleasing him. –John Wesley

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"Accustom yourself gradually to carry Prayer into all your daily occupation -- speak, act, work in peace, as if you were in prayer, as indeed you ought to be." –François Fénelon

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"The true spirit of prayer is no other than God's own Spirit dwelling in the hearts of the saints. And as this spirit comes from God, so doth it naturally tend to God in holy breathings and pantings. It naturally leads to God, to converse with him by prayer." –Jonathan Edwards

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"God does not stand afar off as I struggle to speak. He cares enough to listen with more than casual attention. He translates my scrubby words and hears what is truly inside. He hears my sighs and uncertain gropings as fine prose." –Timothy Jones

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"Prayer is not a discourse. It is a form of life, the life with God. That is why it is not confined to the moment of verbal statement." –Jacques Ellul

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"In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart." –John Bunyan

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"When a man has found the Lord, he no longer has to use words when he is praying, for the Spirit Himself will intercede for him with groans that cannot be uttered. –John Climacus

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"Prayer is not so much an act as it is an attitude—an attitude of dependency, dependency upon God." – Arthur W. Pink

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"There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful than that of a continual conversation with God." –Brother Lawrence

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"Prayer does not fit us for the greater work, prayer *is* the greater work." –Oswald Chambers

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"What the Church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use - men of prayer, men of mighty prayer." –E. M. Bounds

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"Show me a church or a Christian organization that emphasizes prayer, and I'll show you a ministry where people are excited about Jesus Christ and are witnessing for Him." –Bill Bright

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"Prayer is the answer to every problem in life! It puts us in tune with the divine wisdom which knows how to adjust everything perfectly. So often we do not pray in certain situations because from our standpoint the outlook is hopeless, but nothing is impossible with GOD. Nothing is so entangled that it can not be remedied. No human relationship is too strained for God to bring about reconciliation and understanding. No habit is so deep rooted that it can not be over come. No mind so dull it cannot be made brilliant. No one is so ill that he can not be healed. Whatever we need if we trust God he can supply it. If anything is causing worry or anxiety let us stop rehearsing the difficulty and trust in God for healing, love, and power."
–R.A. Renfro

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"I would rather train twenty men to pray, than a thousand to preach; A minister's highest mission ought to be to teach his people to pray." –H. MacGregor

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