

Praying Scripture In A Personal Way

Purpose: To engage scripture in a deeply personal way, reminding ourselves of God's heart and intention towards us, specifically, as his children.

Practice: Take a passage and insert your name in place of the pronouns to pray for yourself; and/or insert someone else's name in place of the pronouns, to pray for them. Pray the passage slowly, deeply, and personally, allowing your heart and mind to truly absorb the words of truth.

Some Passage Suggestions:

- Romans 8:28-39 – More than Conquerors
- Psalm 139 – Identity, How loved we are
- Psalm 23 – Peace in the midst of trouble
- Psalm 27 – Courage, Trusting in God
- Psalm 51 – Repentance
- Psalm 91 – Protection, Spiritual Battle
- 1 Corinthians 13 – The Love Chapter
- Ephesians 1:17-23 – Prayer for God's power and enlightenment
- Ephesians 3:14-21 – Understanding God's love and power in us
- Philippians 2:1-18 – Humility, Jesus Christ
- Philippians 4:4-9 – Rejoicing, even in trials

Example – Selections From Romans 8

(v.1) Therefore, there is now no condemnation for _____, who is in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set her/him free from the law of sin and death.

(v.14) For _____, who is led by the Spirit of God, is a child of God. The Spirit _____ received does not make her/him a slave, so that she/he should live in fear again; rather, the Spirit _____ received brought about her/him adoption to daughtership. And by him _____ cries, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with her/him spirit that she is God's child. Now if _____ is a child, then she/he is an heir—an heir of God and co-heir with Christ, if indeed she/he shares in his sufferings in order that she/he may also share in his glory.

(v. 18) I consider that _____'s present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in her/him.

(v.26) In the same way, the Spirit helps _____ in her/his weakness. She/He does not know what she ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for her/him through wordless groans. And he who searches her/him heart knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of _____, who loves him, and who has been called according to his purpose. For _____, whom God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that she/he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And _____, who he predestined, he also called; and those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for _____, who can be against her/him? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for _____ — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give _____ all things? Who will bring any charge against _____ whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for _____. Who shall separate _____ from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

No, in all these things _____ is more than a conqueror through him who loves her/him. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate _____ from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.