

A Prayer Before Teaching The Bible

(appropriate for Mid Schoolers and older)

Michael R. Daily August 2016

Other youth bible studies by Michael Daily available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

(Source: Rev. John S. Mahon, Grace Community International, Houston, TX, <http://gciweb.org>)

To know for sure that God will answer a prayer, we need to pray in His will (**I John 5:14-15**). We can know His will by seeing it in His Word – the Bible. As a result we can focus our prayers to be effective by basing them on scripture (**John 15:7**). Below is an example prayer for use before teaching the Bible.

“Lord, this is your Holy Word. Your Word is perfect, restoring the soul. Your Word is sure, making wise the simple. Your precepts are right, rejoicing the heart. Your judgments are true; they are righteous altogether. By them Your servant is warned; In keeping them there is great reward. Your Word is more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb. And Lord, your Word is very pure, therefore your servants love it.” (**Psalms 19:7-11, Psalm 119:140, Psalm 12:6**)

“Lord, we ask that you would plow up the hard ground of our hearts and use your Word to send roots downward and bear fruit upward in our lives for your glory”.

(**Mark 16:14, Psalm 95:6-10, Proverbs 28:14, Proverbs 29:1, Hebrews 4:7, Hebrews 3:12-15**)

“Like a mirror Lord, use your Word to show us who we really are, compared to what you want us to be”.

(**James 1:22-25**)

“Drop your Word like a plumb line against our lives and reveal to us where we are falling short in our obedience to you”. (**Amos 7:7-8**)

“Unsheath now the Sword of Your Spirit and use it to judge the thoughts and intentions of our hearts”.

(**Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12-13**)

“We ask these things in the name of our Lord and Savior and Your Son, Jesus Christ”. (**John 14:13-15**)

Plumb Line: *a tool that consists of a small, heavy object attached to a string or rope that is used to see if something (such as a wall) is perfectly vertical.*

I John 5:14-15

This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

John 15:7

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Psalms 19:7-11

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. ⁸ The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. ⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether. ¹⁰ They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb. ¹¹ Moreover, by them Your servant is warned; In keeping them there is great reward.

Psalms 119:140 - Your word is very pure, Therefore Your servant loves it.

Psalms 12:6

The words of the LORD are pure words; As silver tried in a furnace on the earth, refined seven times.

Mark 16:14

Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining *at the table*; and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen.

Psalms 95:6-10

Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. ⁷ For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice, ⁸ Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, As in the day of Massah in the wilderness, ⁹ “When your fathers tested Me, They tried Me, though they had seen My work. ¹⁰ “For forty years I loathed that generation, And said they are a people who err in their heart, And they do not know My ways.

Proverbs 28:14

How blessed is the man who fears always, But he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.

Proverbs 29:1

A man who hardens *his* neck after much reproof Will suddenly be broken beyond remedy.

Hebrews 4:7

He again fixes a certain day, “Today,” saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before, “TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS.”

Hebrews 3:12-15

Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end, ¹⁵ while it is said, “TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME.”

James 1:22-25

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

Amos 7:7-8

Thus He showed me, and behold, the Lord was standing by a vertical wall with a plumb line in His hand. ⁸ The LORD said to me, “What do you see, Amos?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “Behold I am about to put a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel. I will spare them no longer.

Ephesians 6:17

And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

John 14:13-15

Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do *it*. ¹⁵ “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *A Prayer Before Teaching The Bible*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I John 5:14-15, John 15:7*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

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