

Let Us Pray



Here is the Lord's Prayer

He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation." (Luke 11:2-4, NIV)

By Cleve Murphy, MThS

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 1, 2025

Theme: The Indispensable Duty of Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up." (Luke 18:1)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley regarded prayer not merely as a religious practice but as an indispensable duty and a vital means of grace for spiritual life's beginning, continuation, and growth. He taught that prayer is a direct command from God and the primary channel through which individuals engage with God, express dependence, and receive divine assistance. For Wesley, to neglect prayer was to ignore one's soul and to sever the lifeline of communion with God. He believed that "God does nothing but in answer to prayer" (a sentiment often attributed to him, reflecting his emphasis on the efficacy of prayer in the outworking of God's purposes). This underscores his conviction that prayer is fundamental to Christian existence and participation in God's work.

Reflection:

Consider your current rhythm of prayer. Do you view it as an essential duty, a joyful privilege, or perhaps a neglected practice? How can you more intentionally embrace prayer as the very breath of your spiritual life, as Wesley encouraged?

Prayer:

Almighty God, impress upon my heart the indispensable nature of prayer. Forgive me for the times I have neglected this sacred duty and precious means of grace. Teach me to "always pray and not give up," that I might live in constant communion with You and witness Your power at work in and through me. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7); Wesley's *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 2, 2025

Theme: Prayer as Communion with God

Scripture (NIV):

"Come near to God and he will come near to you." (James 4:8a)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley understood prayer to be far more than simply presenting a list of requests. At its heart, prayer is an intimate communion with God. It is the soul drawing near to its Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer. Wesley emphasized that believers engage in a two-way conversation in prayer, speaking to God and, crucially, listening for His voice. This fellowship with God is the source of spiritual strength, comfort, and guidance. He taught that through prayer, the believer cultivates a deeper relationship with God, experiencing His presence in a profound and transformative way. This nearness to God is the wellspring of all true piety and holiness.

Reflection:

When you pray, is your primary focus on presenting requests or cultivating fellowship with God? How can you foster a greater sense of God's nearness and actively listen for His voice during your prayer times?

Prayer:

Father, I thank You for the incredible privilege of praying near You. Help me move beyond merely asking for a deeper experience of communion with You. Quiet my heart to hear Your voice, and fill me with the joy and peace that come from Your abiding presence. May my prayer life be a constant coming near to You. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 19: *The Great Privilege of those that are God* (3:9); Wesley's *Journals* (for examples of his communion).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 3, 2025

Theme: The Warrant for Prayer: God's Command and Promise

Scripture (NIV):

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley taught that a Christian's engagement in prayer is not based solely on human inclination but is firmly grounded in God's explicit commands and faithful promises. He pointed to scriptures where God enjoins His people to pray and attaches to these commands the assurance that He hears and answers. For Wesley, the "ask, seek, knock" passage was a clear warrant from Christ Himself, encouraging believers to approach God confidently, knowing that He is a God who delights in giving good gifts to His children. This divine warrant gives prayer its authority and boldness.

Reflection:

Do you sometimes hesitate in prayer, wondering if God truly wants to hear from you or if He will answer your prayers? Reflect on the scriptural commands and promises regarding prayer. How can meditating on this divine warrant increase your confidence and persistence in prayer?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I thank You for Your clear command and gracious promise to hear us when we call upon You. Strengthen my faith in Your word, that I may ask, seek, and knock with unwavering confidence in Your willingness to give, Your readiness to be found, and Your power to open doors. Remove all doubt and help me to pray according to Your divine warrant. Amen.

Notes for further study: *Sermon 29: Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 9* (Matthew 7:1-12); *Wesley's Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament* (on Matthew 7:7).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 4, 2025

Theme: Praying in the Spirit

Scripture (NIV):

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." (Ephesians 6:18)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley understood "praying in the Spirit" as essential for accurate and effective prayer. This involves more than merely uttering words; it signifies prayer that is prompted, guided, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit helps believers to pray according to God's will, with fervor and understanding, even when they do not know how or what to pray for (Romans 8:26). For Wesley, this meant a dependence on the Spirit's agency within the act of prayer, moving it from a human exercise to a divine encounter. The Spirit quickens the soul, inspires true devotion, and carries the petitions of the heart to God.

Reflection:

How conscious are you of the Holy Spirit's role in your prayer life? Do you actively seek His guidance and empowerment when you pray? Consider how you can more fully yield to the Spirit, allowing Him to direct your thoughts, desires, and words in prayer.

Prayer:

Holy Spirit, I confess my inability to pray as I ought without Your divine assistance. Fill me, guide my thoughts, and inspire my petitions. Help me to pray by the Father's will, with a heart inflamed by Your presence, that my prayers may be acceptable to God and powerful in their effect. Teach me what it truly means to "pray in the Spirit." Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 141: *On the Holy Spirit* (2 Corinthians 3:17); Sermon 10: *The Witness of the Spirit, Discourse I* (Romans 8:16).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 5, 2025

Theme: The Role of Christ in Prayer: Praying in Jesus' Name

Scripture (NIV):

"And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." (John 14:13-14)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley strongly emphasized Jesus Christ's mediator role in prayer. To pray "in Jesus' name" was not, for Wesley, a mere formula appended to the end of a prayer. Instead, it signified approaching God solely on the merits of Christ's atoning sacrifice and righteous life, recognizing Him as the one true Mediator between God and humanity. It means praying in accordance with His character and will, and in dependence upon His intercession. Wesley taught that it is through Christ alone that our prayers are made acceptable to the Father and that believers can have confidence in approaching the throne of grace.

Reflection:

What does "praying in Jesus' name" truly mean to you? Is it a routine phrase, or does it reflect a deep reliance on Christ's mediation? How can you become more aware of Christ's role as you pray, ensuring your requests align with His will and bring glory to the Father?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, my great High Priest and Mediator, I thank You that I can approach the Father in Your name. Help me to pray with a profound understanding of what this means—relying entirely on Your merits, seeking Your will, and desiring Your glory. May all my prayers be offered through You and for Your sake so that the Father may be glorified in You. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 5: *Justification by Faith* (Romans 4:5); Wesley's *Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament* (on John 14:13-14).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 6, 2025

Theme: Sincerity and Heartfelt Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and truth." (John 4:23-24)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley passionately advocated for sincere and heartfelt prayer, not merely formal or ritualistic. He believed that God seeks worshipers who engage with Him "in Spirit and truth," meaning with genuine emotion, honest intentions, and a heart fully engaged. For Wesley, prayer without sincerity was an empty exercise. He often cautioned against "lip service" and encouraged believers to pour their hearts before God, expressing their true desires, fears, joys, and sorrows. In Wesley's view, true prayer springs from the depths of a soul earnestly seeking God.

Reflection:

Examine the nature of your prayers. Are they typically recited from memory or rote, or flow from a sincere and engaged heart? How can you cultivate deeper authenticity and heartfelt expression in communicating with God?

Prayer:

Father, search my heart and reveal any insincerity in my prayers. Teach me to worship You in Spirit and truth, with a fully alive and engaged heart. Deliver me from cold formality, and help me pour out my soul with honesty and genuine devotion, for You seek such worshipers. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 7: *The Way to the Kingdom* (Mark 1:15); Sermon 34: *The Original, Nature, Property, and Use of the Law* (Romans 7:12) (for discussions on inward religion).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 7, 2025

Theme: Hindrances to Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures." (James 4:3)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley was keenly aware of various hindrances that could obstruct a vibrant prayer life and render prayers ineffective. He identified unconfessed sin, wrong motives (as highlighted in James 4:3), a worldly spirit, neglect of known duties, and a lack of faith or expectancy. Wesley taught that if the heart is not right with God or if prayer is offered for selfish ends, it cannot be pleasing to God or efficacious. He urged believers to examine their hearts and lives, removing any known obstacles that might grieve the Holy Spirit and hinder their communion with the Father.

Reflection:

Consider your own prayer life. Are there any potential hindrances—perhaps unconfessed sin, selfish desires, or a doubting heart—that might affect your communication with God? What steps can you take today to remove these obstacles and approach God with a clear conscience and pure motives?

Prayer:

Lord, reveal to me any hindrances in life that obstruct my prayers. Grant me the grace to confess and forsake any sin, purify my motives, and cultivate a wholly devoted heart to You. Help me to remove every barrier so that my prayers may ascend freely to Your throne and be received favorably by You. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7) (discusses proper use of means); Sermon 80: *On Friendship with the World* (James 4:4).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 8, 2025

Theme: Private Prayer (The Closet)

Scripture (NIV):

"But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley placed immense importance on private prayer, referring to it as "closet prayer," based on Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:6. He saw this secret communion with God as foundational to personal spiritual vitality. For Wesley, private prayer was the primary place for intimate fellowship with God, honest self-examination, deep confession, and earnest supplication. He believed that the strength and authenticity of one's public Christian life largely depended on the faithfulness and fervor of one's private devotions. It is in secret that the soul is truly nourished and the character is formed.

Reflection:

How consistent and intentional are you in your practice of private prayer? Do you have a dedicated time and place for secret communion with God? Reflect on the spiritual and practical rewards Jesus promises to those who pray secretly.

Prayer:

Father, who sees in secret, draws me into the discipline and delight of private prayer. Help me to find a quiet place and time to close the door on the world's distractions and commune deeply with You. May my secret prayers be sincere and fervent. May I experience the reward of Your presence, guidance, and transforming grace. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 28: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 8* (Matthew 6:16-18, touches on private disciplines); Wesley's *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 9, 2025

Theme: Public Prayer (Corporate Worship)

Scripture (NIV):

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer." (Acts 2:42)

Wesleyan Insight:

While emphasizing private devotion, John Wesley also strongly advocated for the necessity and benefit of public or corporate prayer. He saw the gathering of believers for worship, as exemplified by the early church, as a vital means of grace. In corporate prayer, believers unite their hearts and voices, bear one another's burdens, receive collective instruction and encouragement, and experience the heightened presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Wesley believed that public worship, including common prayer, was essential for spiritual growth, Christian fellowship, and the edification of the Church.

Reflection:

How do you view your participation in public prayer and corporate worship? Is it a duty, a joy, or an afterthought? Consider the unique blessings and strengths that come from praying with fellow believers. How can you engage more fully and expectantly in corporate prayer?

Prayer:

Lord, instill in me a deep appreciation for the gift of public prayer and worship with Your people. Help me to join faithfully with fellow believers, uniting my heart and voice in supplication and praise. May our corporate prayers be a sweet incense before You, strengthening our fellowship and advancing Your kingdom. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 104: *On Attending the Church Service* (1 Samuel 2:17); Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 10, 2025

Theme: Family Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15b)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley was a strong proponent of family prayer, viewing it as a crucial responsibility for household heads and a significant means of spiritual nurture for all family members. He believed that daily prayer within the family unit—including reading Scripture, singing hymns, and offering petitions together—was essential for instilling Christian values, fostering spiritual growth in children, and sanctifying the home. Wesley saw family religion as a cornerstone of a godly society and urged Methodists to be diligent in this practice, creating a spiritual atmosphere where faith could flourish.

Reflection:

If you are part of a family unit, is prayer a regular and valued part of your life together? If not, what steps could you take to begin or revitalize the practice of family prayer? Consider the long-term spiritual impact this discipline can have on your loved ones.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, who has set the lonely in families, I pray for the grace to cultivate a spirit of prayer within my household. Guide us to establish and maintain the discipline of family worship, that our homes may be places where Your name is honored, Your Word is cherished, and Your presence is sought daily. May we, as a family, resolve to serve You faithfully. Amen.

Notes for further study: Wesley's preface to *A Collection of Prayers for Families*; his letters often contained advice on family religion.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 11, 2025

Theme: Extemporaneous Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"For the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say." (Luke 12:12)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley valued liturgical (for) prayer and extemporaneous prayer (praying spontaneously from the heart). He believed extemporaneous prayer was vital for immediate personal needs, thanksgivings, and the present movements of the Holy Spirit. While he provided prayer books and encouraged using the Book of Common Prayer, he also practiced and encouraged Methodists to cultivate the ability to pray spontaneously, trusting the Spirit to guide their words. For Wesley, extemporaneous prayer allowed for flexibility, heartfelt expression, and a direct response to the specific leadings and burdens of the moment.

Reflection:

Are you comfortable with praying extemporaneously, or do you primarily rely on written prayers or familiar patterns? Consider the unique benefits of spontaneous prayer. How might you cultivate a greater freedom and confidence in allowing the Holy Spirit to guide your prayers in the moment?

Prayer:

Lord, teach me to pray with both form and freedom. Grant me the courage and sensitivity to pray extemporaneously, expressing the unique burdens and praises of my heart as they arise in the spirit of Your presence. May the Holy Spirit teach me what to say so that my prayers are authentic, timely, and aligned with Your will. Amen.

Notes for further study: Wesley's *Journals* (which contain many instances of his extemporaneous prayers in various situations); Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 12, 2025

Theme: Forms of Prayer (Liturgy)

Scripture (NIV):

"Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." (Luke 11:1b)

Wesleyan Insight:

While championing heartfelt religion, John Wesley also deeply appreciated the value of forms of prayer, or liturgy. He was an Anglican priest and regularly used *The Book of Common Prayer*, which he adapted for use by the Methodists in America (*The Sunday Service*). Wesley believed that well-crafted forms of prayer could guide devotion, teach sound doctrine, provide rich scriptural language for prayer, and unite believers in common supplication. He saw set prayers not as a hindrance to the Spirit, but as a helpful structure that could prevent distraction and ensure that key aspects of worship and petition were consistently included.

Reflection:

What is your experience using forms of prayer or liturgy? Do you find them helpful or constraining? Reflect on how established prayers, such as the Lord's Prayer or those found in a prayer book, can guide your devotion and connect you with the broader Christian community throughout history.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I thank You for the wisdom and beauty found in forms of prayer that have nourished Your people through the ages. Teach me to use such prayers not as empty repetition, but as a means to deepen my devotion, order my petitions, and unite my heart with the timeless prayers of Your Church. Please help me find the Spirit in the structure. Amen.

Notes for further study: John Wesley's *The Sunday Service of the Methodists in North America*; Preface to *A Collection of Psalms and Hymns* (1737).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 13, 2025

Theme: Continual Prayer (Praying Without Ceasing)

Scripture (NIV):

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley took the biblical injunction to "pray continually" (or "pray without ceasing") very earnestly. He did not interpret this as meaning one must always be on one's knees in formal prayer, but rather as maintaining a constant attitude of prayerfulness—a habitual sense of God's presence and an ongoing conversation with Him throughout the day. For Wesley, this meant lifting the heart to God in brief "ejaculatory" prayers, interspersing daily activities with moments of focused communion, and living with an abiding desire to please God in all things. It is a state of the heart always open and turned toward God.

Reflection:

What does "praying continually" look like in your daily life? Is it a part of your understanding and practice of the Christian walk? Consider practical ways to cultivate a more consistent awareness of God's presence and incorporate brief, heartfelt prayers into your daily activities.

Prayer:

Lord, teach me the secret of praying without ceasing. Cultivate in me a heart that continually turns to You, an awareness of Your abiding presence, and the habit of lifting my thoughts and desires to You throughout each moment. May my life become a continuous prayer, and I live in joyful communion with You in all circumstances. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7); Wesley's *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection* (discusses the life of prayer).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 14, 2025

Theme: Short, Darted Prayers

Scripture (NIV):

"So I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king..." (Nehemiah 2:4b-5a)

Wesleyan Insight:

As part of practicing continual prayer, John Wesley highly recommended using "short or darted prayers"—short, spontaneous prayers darted to God amid daily activities. These are not lengthy or formal but are brief expressions of praise, petition, dependence, or thanksgiving offered in the moment. Wesley found these short prayers to be a powerful way to maintain communion with God throughout the day, to seek immediate guidance or strength, and to sanctify everyday tasks. They help keep the heart focused on God and integrate faith into the fabric of everyday life.

Reflection:

How often do you offer short, spontaneous prayers to God throughout your day? Consider the example of Nehemiah, who prayed instantly before responding to the king. What opportunities might you have today to offer such "ejaculatory prayers," turning your heart to God in specific moments of need, gratitude, or decision?

Prayer:

God of heaven, You are near to all who call upon You. Teach me the art of ejaculatory prayer, that I may learn to dart my thoughts and desires to You amid my daily life. Help me to cultivate this habit of brief, fervent prayers, so that I may continually acknowledge Your presence and seek Your grace in every circumstance. Amen.

Notes for further study: Wesley's "*A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*" often models the integration of prayer into daily life, as seen in his journals.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 15, 2025

Theme: Adoration and Praise in Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all." (1 Chronicles 29:11)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley believed that prayer should be permeated with adoration and praise. Before presenting petitions, it is fitting to acknowledge God's supreme majesty, infinite perfections, and glorious attributes. Wesley's prayers and the hymns he and his brother Charles promoted are rich with language of adoration. He understood that focusing on God's greatness rightly orients the heart, cultivates humility, and stirs up love and reverence—essential dispositions for approaching the Holy One. Adoration lifts the soul beyond its own needs to marvel at the nature of God.

Reflection:

When you pray, how much time and attention do you give to simply adoring God for who He is? Consider the character of God—His holiness, love, wisdom, power, and faithfulness. How can you more intentionally incorporate expressions of praise and adoration into the beginning and substance of your prayers?

Prayer:

O Lord, my God, You are great and greatly to be praised! Yours is greatness, power, glory, majesty, and splendor. Teach me to begin my prayers by adoring Your holy name and wondrous character. Lift my heart above my concerns to revel in Your infinite perfections so that my soul may be filled with awe and my prayers may be fired in the most profound reverence. Amen.

Notes for further study: *A Collection of Psalms and Hymns* (edited by Wesley, full of adoration); Sermon 1: *Salvation by Faith* (Ephesians 2:8) (which begins with an adoration of God's plan).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 16, 2025

Theme: Thanksgiving in Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God." (Philippians 4:6)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley emphasized that thanksgiving should be an integral component of all prayer. He taught that believers ought to cultivate a grateful heart, consistently acknowledging God's myriad blessings, both spiritual and temporal. For Wesley, thanksgiving was not just a polite addition to prayer but a vital expression of faith, recognizing God's goodness, His past faithfulness, and His ongoing providential care. He believed that a spirit of gratitude combats anxiety, fosters contentment, and opens the heart to receive further grace. Even under challenging circumstances, expressing thanks honors God and strengthens the soul.

Reflection:

How prominent is Thanksgiving in your prayers? Do you tend to focus more on requests than on expressing gratitude? Take a few moments to list specific things—big and small—for which you are thankful today. How can you more deliberately incorporate Thanksgiving into every prayer?

Prayer:

Gracious God, from whom all blessings flow, I come before You with a heart full of thanksgiving. Forgive me for the times I have overlooked Your goodness or taken Your gifts for granted. Help me cultivate a spirit of gratitude in all circumstances, recognizing Your hand in every blessing. May my prayers always be seasoned with heartfelt thanks for Your unending mercies. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 51: *The Good Steward* (Luke 16:2); Wesley's *Journals* (often record his expressions of thankfulness).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 17, 2025

Theme: Confession in Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley regarded honest confession of sin as an essential element of prayer, particularly for believers seeking to grow in holiness. He taught that self-examination in the light of God's Word should lead to a humble acknowledgment of specific shortcomings, failures, and sinful inclinations. This was not to induce despair but to lead to repentance and the appropriation of God's forgiveness and cleansing power. For Wesley, regular and sincere confession keeps the conscience tender, maintains fellowship with God, and opens the way for continued spiritual growth and purification from the inward roots of sin.

Reflection:

How consistently do you engage in the specific confession of sin during your prayer time? Is it a general acknowledgment, or do you take time to examine your heart and actions before God honestly? Reflect on the promise of forgiveness and purification attached to sincere confession.

Prayer:

Holy and merciful Father, I come before You acknowledging my sinfulness and specific transgressions in thought, word, and deed. I have fallen short of Your glory and grieved Your Spirit. Grant me true repentance, and according to Your faithful promise, forgive my sins and purify me from all unrighteousness. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 14: *The Repentance of Believers* (Mark 1:15); Wesley's *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 18, 2025

Theme: Petition and Supplication in Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley strongly affirmed the legitimacy and importance of petition (asking for specific needs for oneself) and supplication (earnest requests) in prayer. He encouraged believers to bring their spiritual, physical, and material needs before God with childlike trust and persistence. Wesley understood that God, as a loving Father, invites His children to make their requests known to Him. While emphasizing submission to God's will, he also taught that God desires us to ask specifically and earnestly, believing He can provide for us according to His wisdom and goodness.

Reflection:

Are there needs you hesitate to bring before God in your life, perhaps thinking they are too small or too worldly? Reflect on Jesus' encouragement to "ask, seek, and knock." What specific petitions are on your heart today that you can bring to your Heavenly Father with earnestness and faith?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, You invite me to cast all my cares upon You, for You care for me. I come now with my petitions, laying before You my needs and heart's desires. [Mention specific requests]. Grant me these things, if they are by Your will and for my ultimate good. Teach me to ask with faith, to seek with diligence, and to knock with persistence, trusting in Your love and provision. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 29: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 9* (Matthew 7:1-12); *Wesley's Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament* (on Matthew 7:7).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 19, 2025

Theme: Intercession in Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"I urge, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley considered intercessory prayer—praying on behalf of others—to be a vital Christian and a powerful expression of love. He consistently practiced and urged Methodists to pray for all people: for the Church, for leaders, for the unconverted, for those suffering, and even for their enemies. Wesley believed intercession alters the believer's heart with God's universal love and concern for humanity. He saw it as a means by which God releases His power and blessing into the lives of others and a way to participate in Christ's ongoing intercessory ministry.

Reflection:

How much of your prayer time is dedicated to interceding for others? Who are the people or situations that God has placed on you to pray for today? Consider the broad scope of Paul's exhortation—from leaders to all people—and how you can expand your practice of intercession.

Prayer:

Gracious Father, who desires all people to be saved and to know the truth, I come before You now as an intercessor. I lift it to you [mention specific people, groups, or situations]. Pour out Your Spirit, grant wisdom, healing, salvation, and peace according to their needs and Your will. Make me a faithful intercessor, reflecting Your boundless love for the world. Amen.

Notes for further study: Wesley's *Journals* (filled with examples of his intercessory prayers for individuals and the nation); Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7) (as prayer is a means to bless others).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 20, 2025

Theme: Submission and Resignation in Prayer (Thy Will Be Done)

Scripture (NIV):

"Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.'" (Matthew 26:39)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley taught that while believers should pray with earnestness and specificity, all prayer must ultimately be offered in a spirit of humble submission and resignation to God's sovereign will. He pointed to Christ's prayer in Gethsemane as the ultimate model: fervent petition coupled with complete surrender ("Yet not as I will, but as you will"). For Wesley, true faith trusts that God's wisdom, love, and timing are perfect, even when His answers differ from our desires or expectations. Resignation to God's will is not passive fatalism but an active entrusting of oneself and one's requests to an all-wise and all-loving Father.

Reflection:

How do you typically respond when God's answers to your prayers differ from what you hoped for, or when His timing seems slow? Is it easy to genuinely pray, "Your will be done"? Reflect on Christ's example in Gethsemane and ask God for grace to cultivate a deeper spirit of submission and trust in His perfect will.

Prayer:

My spiritual mentor taught me to pray with the same spirit of submission that Jesus modeled. While I bring my desires and petitions before You, may I always conclude with, "Yet not as I will, but as You will." Help me to trust Your infinite wisdom and perfect love, even when I do not understand. Grant me the grace to desire Your will above my own and to find peace in Your sovereign purposes. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 30: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 10* (Matthew 7:13-14, related to the narrow way of submission); Wesley's *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 21, 2025

Theme: Expectancy and Faith in Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." (Mark 11:24)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley taught that prayer should be offered with genuine faith and a holy expectancy that God will hear and answer. He understood Mark 11:24 to mean believers should approach God confidently in His power and be willing to respond according to His promises. This is not a presumptuous demand but a trust rooted in God's character and Word. For Wesley, faith in prayer involved believing not only that God can answer, but that He will answer, in His own time and way, for the good of those who love Him and for His glory. Such constant faith is crucial for persevering prayer and receiving what God is pleased to give.

Reflection:

When you pray, do you sincerely expect God to answer you? Or do your prayers sometimes feel like a shot in the dark? Reflect on the nature of your faith as you approach God. How can you cultivate a stronger expectancy that God is actively listening and will respond to your heartfelt petitions?

Prayer:

Lord, I believe; help my unbelief! Increase my faith so that I may pray with actual expectancy, fully believing that You hear me and that You will answer to Your perfect will and boundless wisdom. Forgive my doubts and replace them with steadfast confidence in Your power, Your love, and Your promises. May I always approach Your throne of grace with bold and expectant faith. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 106: *On Faith* (Hebrews 11:1); Wesley's *Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament* (on Mark 11:24).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 22, 2025

Theme: Prayer as a Means of Grace

Scripture (NIV):

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley consistently identified prayer as one of the chief "means of grace"—outward signs, words, or actions, ordained by God. He conveys His prevenient, convicting, justifying, and sanctifying grace to souls. For Wesley, prayer was not a way to earn God's favor, but a divinely appointed channel for receiving the spiritual help, strength, and mercy necessary for salvation and holy living. He taught that by diligently engaging in prayer (both private and public), believers position themselves to receive the grace God is always willing to give, enabling them to draw nearer to Him and grow in conformity to Christ.

Reflection:

Do you view prayer primarily as a duty, a list of requests, or as a vital channel through which God imparts His grace to you? Consider how approaching prayer with the understanding that it is a "means of grace" can transform your motivation and expectation. In what areas of your life do you most need God's grace today, and how can you seek it through prayer?

Prayer:

Gracious God, I thank You for ordaining prayer as a precious means by which I can approach Your throne and receive mercy and grace. Help me to diligently use this channel, not as a work to earn Your favor, but as an opportunity to receive the spiritual strength and divine assistance You freely offer. May my prayers open my heart ever wider to Your transforming grace. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7); John Wesley's *General Rules* of the Methodist Societies.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 23, 2025

Theme: Prayer and Overcoming Temptation

Scripture (NIV):

"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley strongly emphasized the critical role of prayer in overcoming temptation. From Scripture and experience, he understood that human willpower alone is insufficient to resist the assaults of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Wesley taught that "watching" (being spiritually alert and vigilant) must be combined with earnest "praying" for divine strength and deliverance. Prayer is how believers access God's power to stand firm against temptation, to discern its subtle approaches, and to find the way of escape that God provides (1 Corinthians 10:13). For Wesley, a consistent prayer life was indispensable armor for spiritual warfare.

Reflection:

When facing temptation, is prayer your first resort or your last resort? How can you more intentionally combine watchfulness with prayer to guard against falling into sin? Identify any recurrent temptations in your life and make a plan to meet them with specific, expectant prayer.

Prayer:

Almighty God, my refuge and strength, I am prone to temptation, and my flesh is weak. Teach me to watch and pray, that I may not enter into temptation, or that, when tempted, I may stand firm. Grant me Your divine power to overcome every assault of the enemy and to live in victory through Christ. Keep me vigilant and dependent on You through constant prayer. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 85: *On Working Out Our Salvation* (Philippians 2:12-13); Sermon 26: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 6* (Matthew 6:13, on the Lord's Prayer).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 24, 2025

Theme: Prayer and Discerning God's Will

Scripture (NIV):

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." (James 1:5)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley taught that prayer is a primary means by which believers can discern God's will for their lives. Faced with decisions or the need for guidance, Wesley encouraged turning to God in earnest prayer, asking for wisdom and divine direction. He believed that God desires to guide His children and will illuminate their path through the Holy Spirit in response to sincere seeking. This discernment comes through direct impressions during prayer and prayerful engagement with Scripture, godly counsel (such as Christian conferences), and the leadings of providence, all of which are bathed in prayer.

Reflection:

Are you facing any decisions or situations where you must discern God's will? How central is prayer in your decision-making process? Reflect on James 1:5 and the assurance that God gives wisdom generously. What steps can you take to seek His guidance more prayerfully and expectantly?

Prayer:

O God of infinite wisdom, I often lack understanding and struggle to discern Your perfect will. I come to You now, asking for the wisdom You promise to generously give. Guide my thoughts, enlighten my understanding through Your Word and Spirit, and make clear the path You would have me walk. May my decisions and actions always align with Your good, pleasing, and perfect will. Amen.

Notes for further study: Wesley's *Journals* (often detail his process of seeking God's will in prayer); Sermon 76: *On Perfection* (Hebrews 6:1) (discusses growing in knowledge of God's will).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 25, 2025

Theme: Prayer and Growth in Holiness

Scripture (NIV):

"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

Wesleyan Insight:

For John Wesley, prayer was essential for growth in holiness, leading toward the goal of entire sanctification. He taught that while sanctification is God's work, it is a work in which believers must cooperate, and prayer is a primary means of this cooperation. Through prayer, believers express their desire for holiness, consecrate themselves to God, receive grace to overcome sin, cultivate holy tempers (Christ-like affections), and draw strength to live wholly devoted lives. Wesley believed that earnest prayer for sanctification was indispensable for any who would be "perfected in love."

Reflection:

Is growth in holiness and Christ-likeness a regular petition in your prayers? Do you actively seek God's sanctifying grace to transform your inner being and outward life? Consider how dedicating more intentional prayer towards your sanctification could deepen your walk with God and conformity to Christ.

Prayer:

God of peace, I long to be sanctified, so that my whole spirit, soul, and body may be kept blameless for Your glory. By Your Spirit, and through the means of prayer, work of holiness within me. Uproot sin, cultivate Christ-like tempers, and fill me with Your perfect love. Make me holy, as You are **HOLY!** Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 13: *On Sin in Believers* (2 Corinthians 5:17); Sermon 76: *On Perfection* (Hebrews 6:1); Wesley's *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 26, 2025

Theme: Prayer and Christian Fellowship (Praying With Others)

Scripture (NIV):

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, my Father in heaven will do it for them. For where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them."
(Matthew 18:19-20)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley deeply valued the power of praying with others, a cornerstone of the Methodist class meetings and band societies. He saw Christian fellowship ("Christian conference") not just as social interaction but as a vital means of grace where believers could share their spiritual journeys, bear one another's burdens, and pray for and with each other. Wesley believed that united prayer, as affirmed by Jesus in Matthew 18:19-20, carried extraordinary power and efficacy. Praying together fosters accountability, mutual encouragement, and a shared experience of God's presence, strengthening individual faith and community bonds.

Reflection:

Do you regularly pray with other believers outside of formal corporate worship? Who are the "two or three" in your life with whom you can agree in prayer? Consider the unique blessings and amplified spiritual power that Jesus attributes to praying together. How can you be more intentional about seeking out or participating in such a prayer fellowship?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, You promised Your presence and power where two or three gather in Your name. Thank you for the gift of Christian fellowship and the strength of praying together. Lead me to faithful companions in prayer, and help us to agree in heart and spirit as we bring our requests before our Father in heaven, trusting in Your promise. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 74: *Of the Church* (Ephesians 4:1-6); *The Nature, Design, and General Rules of the United Societies*.

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 27, 2025

Theme: The Power of Importunate Prayer

Scripture (NIV):

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them they should never give up. He said: 'In a certain town, a judge neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And a widow in that town kept coming to him with the plea, "Grant me justice against my adversary." For some time he refused, but finally he said to himself, "Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and wear me out with her coming!"'(Luke 18:1-5)

Wesleyan Insight:

Drawing from parables like that of the persistent widow, John Wesley taught the importance and efficacy of "importunate prayer"—praying with earnestness, persistence, and a refusal to give up easily. This is not about trying to force God's hand or overcome His reluctance, for God is a loving Father eager to give. Instead, importance in prayer demonstrates the depth of our desire, the genuineness of our faith, and our dependence on God. Wesley believed that such persistent, wrestling prayer often precedes significant breakthroughs and answers from God, refining the petitioner's heart.

Reflection:

Are there prayers you have almost given up on because the answer seems delayed? Reflect on the enduring widow parable. What does it teach you about the character of God (who is unlike the unjust judge) and the attitude He desires in those who pray? How can you cultivate greater persistence and importance in your prayer life for those matters that deeply concern you?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, You are a just and loving God, always ready to hear Your children. Teach me the power of important prayer. Grant me a holy persistence that does not easily give up but continues to seek You, knock on Your door, and lay my petitions before You with unwavering faith and earnest desire. May my perseverance in prayer honor You and prepare my heart to receive Your answers. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7)

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 28, 2025

Theme: Answers to Prayer (And Unanswered Prayer)

Scripture (NIV):

"This is our confidence in approaching God: if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him." (1 John 5:14-15)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley firmly believed that God answers prayer, although not always in the way or at the time we expect. He taught that when we pray according to God's will, for things that align with His character, commands, and promises, we can have confidence that He hears and grants our requests. However, Wesley also acknowledged the reality of "unanswered" prayer, or prayers answered differently than anticipated. In such cases, he encouraged trust in God's superior wisdom and sovereign purposes, believing that God always acts for our ultimate good and His glory. Sometimes a "no" or "wait" from God is an answer born of His perfect love.

Reflection:

How do you typically respond when your prayers seem to go unanswered, or when the answer is not what you desired? Reflect 1 John 5:14-15. How does the condition "according to his will" shape your understanding of answered prayer? Cultivate a heart that trusts God's wisdom and goodness, whether He answers "yes," "no," or "wait."

Prayer:

Faithful God, You hear every prayer offered in sincerity and faith. Grant me the confidence that when I ask according to Your will, You hear and I will receive. In those times when your answers differ from my desires, or when silence seems to be your response, help me to trust your infinite wisdom and unfailing love. May my greatest desire always be for Your will to be done. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 30: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 10* (Matthew 7:13-14, on submission); Wesley's *Journals* (reflect on his own experiences with your).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 29, 2025

Theme: Watching and Praying

Scripture (NIV):

"The end of all things is near. Therefore, be alert and of a sober mind so that you may pray." (1 Peter 4:7)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley emphasized the conjoined discipling." To 'watch' means to be spiritually alert, vigilant against temptation, aware of the movements of the Holy Spirit, and mindful of the signs of the times. It involves a sober self-awareness and a keen observation of the spiritual landscape. Wesley taught that such watchfulness is essential for effective prayer. A mind cluttered by worldly cares or dulled by spiritual lethargy cannot pray effectively. Therefore, he urged believers to cultivate a watchful spirit, maintaining spiritual sobriety and alertness, which fuels and focuses their prayers.

Reflection:

How "alert" and "sober-minded" are you spiritually? Are there distractions or forms of spiritual drowsiness that hamper your ability to pray effectively? Consider what practical steps you can take to cultivate greater spiritual watchfulness, so that you may approach prayer with clarity, focus, and sensitivity to the Spirit.

Prayer:

Lord, as the end of everything draws near, I create an alert and sober mind. Deliver me from spiritual drowsiness and worldly distractions that hinder my prayers. Make me watchful against temptation, attentive to Your Spirit's leading, and ready to meet You. May my vigilance sharpen my prayers and sustain my vigilance. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 85: *On Working Out Our Salvation* (Philippians 2:12-13); Sermon 26: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 6* (Matthew 6:13, emphasizing spiritual alertness).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 30, 2025

Theme: The Spirit's Help in Prayer (Groanings Unutterable)

Scripture (NIV):

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." (Romans 8:26)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley deeply understood human weakness in prayer—our ignorance of what to pray for, our inability to express the deepest needs of our hearts, and our lack of proper fervor. He found great comfort and assurance in Paul's teaching that the Holy Spirit Himself comes to our aid. Wesley taught that the Spirit intercedes for believers, sometimes even "through wordless groans," articulating our needs before God in a way that transcends our limited understanding and expression. This divine assistance ensures that even our weakest, most inadequate prayers can be made effective through the Spirit's perfecting work.

Reflection:

Have you ever felt too weak, confused, or overwhelmed to pray? Reflect on the incredible promise that the Holy Spirit helps and intercedes for you in your weakness. How does this truth encourage you to pray to God, even when you lack the words or clarity?

Prayer:

Holy Spirit, Helper and Comforter, I confess my weakness in prayer. So often I do not know what to pray for as I ought. Thank you for the promise that you intercede with groanings that words cannot express. Come to my aid, articulate the deepest needs of my heart before the Father, and align my prayers with His perfect will. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 141: *On the Holy Spirit* (2 Corinthians 3:17); Sermon 10: *The Witness of the Spirit, Discourse I* (Romans 8:16).

Let Us Pray

A Wesleyan Moment: Daily Devotional

Date: July 31, 2025

Theme: Prayer as a Preparation for Glory

Scripture (NIV):

"But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly bodies to be like his glorious body by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control." (Philippians 3:20-21)

Wesleyan Insight:

John Wesley viewed the entire Christian life, including the discipline of prayer, as a preparation for eternal glory. Prayer, as communion with God, is a foretaste of the unending fellowship believers will enjoy in heaven. Through worship, believers cultivate heavenly affections, detach their hearts from worldly things, and grow in conformity to Christ, who is the King of that glorious realm. Wesley taught that a life steeped in prayer draws down present grace and shapes the soul for its ultimate destiny, making it fit for the inheritance of the saints in light. Prayer orients us toward our true home and our eager anticipation of Christ's return.

Reflection:

How does your prayer life connect with your hope of future glory? Do your prayers reflect an eternal perspective, focusing on things above? Consider how regular, fervent prayer can cultivate a more profound desire for heaven and prepare your heart for the full presence of Christ.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, my Savior and King, my citizenship is in heaven, and I eagerly await Your glorious appearance. May my prayers on earth constantly turn my heart toward You and Your eternal kingdom. Use my communion with You to wean me from this world, cultivate heavenly affections, and prepare me for the day when I shall see You face to face and dwell in Your glory forever. Amen.

Notes for further study: Sermon 15: *The Great Assize* (Romans 14:10); Sermon 64: *The New Creation* (Revelation 21:5).

Let Us Pray

Epilogue: A Renewed Heart, A Steadfast Spirit

The echoes of King David's cry, "Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me" (Psalm 51:11, NIV), resonate through the ages, reaching into the depths of our souls. As we conclude "Let Us Pray," this psalm serves as a historical lament and a timeless blueprint for repentance, restoration, and renewed devotion. David, a man after God's heart, yet deeply flawed, reminds us that even in our most significant failures, the path back to the Father's embrace is always open, paved with sincere confession and a humble spirit.

His prayer, born from a profound awareness of sin, is a testament to God's enduring mercy. David understood that true repentance wasn't about simply acknowledging a wrong, but about a complete transformation of the heart – a desire for a clean heart and a steadfast spirit to be renewed within him. This is the essence of "Let Us Pray": cultivating an inner posture of continuous communion with God, recognizing our constant need for His grace and guidance.

As we step forth from these devotional moments, let us carry David's prayer with us, not as a burden of past failures but as a living hope for future victories. Let us commit to guarding our hearts, nurturing our spirits, and always seeking God's presence, for it is in His presence that we find forgiveness, strength, and the unwavering assurance of His love.

In the spirit of renewed commitment, let us make John Wesley's Covenant Prayer our own, echoing its profound surrender and unwavering dedication to the One who freely gives His Holy Spirit to all who ask:

John Wesley's Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen. (August 11, 1755)

Let Us Pray

Works Cited

- *The Holy Bible, New International Version*. Biblica, 2011.
- Wesley, John. "The Covenant Prayer." *A Collection of Prayers for Families*. 1775. Print.

Note: All scriptural passages used throughout this devotional are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

The theological insights regarding John Wesley's principles on prayer have been drawn directly from his primary works. These sources were foundational in crafting the daily "Wesleyan Insight" sections and are specifically recommended in the "Notes for further study" accompanying each day's devotion. As a "man of books," the reader is encouraged to engage with these works directly to deepen their understanding of Wesleyan theology.

Primary Wesleyan Works Referenced or Recommended for Further Study:

Sermons by John Wesley:

(As commonly numbered and titled in standard editions of Wesley's sermons)

- Sermon 1: *Salvation by Faith* (Ephesians 2:8)
- Sermon 5: *Justification by Faith* (Romans 4:5)
- Sermon 7: *The Way to the Kingdom* (Mark 1:15)
- Sermon 10: *The Witness of the Spirit, Discourse I* (Romans 8:16)
- Sermon 13: *On Sin in Believers* (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- Sermon 14: *The Repentance of Believers* (Mark 1:15)
- Sermon 15: *The Great Assize* (Romans 14:10)
- Sermon 16: *The Means of Grace* (Malachi 3:7)
- Sermon 19: *The Great Privilege of those that are Born of God* (1 John 3:9)
- Sermon 26: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 6* (Matthew 6:13)
- Sermon 28: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 8* (Matthew 6:16-18)
- Sermon 29: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 9* (Matthew 7:1-12)
- Sermon 30: *Sermon on the Mount, Discourse 10* (Matthew 7:13-14)
- Sermon 34: *The Original, Nature, Property, and Use of the Law* (Romans 7:12)
- Sermon 51: *The Good Steward* (Luke 16:2)
- Sermon 64: *The New Creation* (Revelation 21:5)

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- Sermon 74: *Of the Church* (Ephesians 4:1-6)
- Sermon 76: *On Perfection* (Hebrews 6:1)
- Sermon 80: *On Friendship with the World* (James 4:4)
- Sermon 85: *On Working Out Our Salvation* (Philippians 2:12-13)
- Sermon 104: *On Attending the Church Service* (1 Samuel 2:17)
- Sermon 106: *On Faith* (Hebrews 11:1)
- Sermon 141: *On the Holy Spirit* (2 Corinthians 3:17)

Other Primary Writings by John Wesley:

- *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection*
 - *Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament*
 - *The Journal of John Wesley*
 - *The Letters of John Wesley*
 - *A Collection of Prayers for Families* (particularly the preface)
 - *The Sunday Service of the Methodists in North America*
 - *A Collection of Psalms and Hymns* (including the 1737 Preface)
 - *The General Rules of the Methodist Societies* (also referred to as *The Nature, Design, and General Rules of the United Societies*)
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About the Author

Cleve is retired and lives with his wife, Joanne, in Florida. Joanne and Owen Murphy have verified all scripture references.

Dedication

This devotional is dedicated to current and past WCA IIPN members from the date of inception to 2025. Thank you, dedicated Prayer Warriors!!!