



*A
Time of Prayer
in
Action*



adapted from
A Summer of Prayer in Action
Glenn Clark, 1944

Glenn Clark, founder of the worldwide prayer movement Farthest Out, was a professor of literature and a highly successful athletic coach. A Christian mystic and a man of prayer and deep faith, he authored dozens of books and other writings on creative spiritual living.

The prayer movement continues to spread through camps, retreats, the planting of prayer groups and service groups.

Glenn Clark's prayer life had a progression of growth and depth. His writings each emphasize our individual prayer life and spiritual growth while focusing on developing a world view and praying for peace.

It was his belief that the Sermon on the Mount is the heart of the Bible, the Lord's Prayer is the heart of the Sermon on the Mount, and "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven" is the heart of the Lord's Prayer.



Dr. Clark sensed a chief need for training in the arts of praying, loving and building a new world. He believed that The Lord's Prayer offers a complete pattern for prayer. It was his experience in this way of prayer that gave basis to the prayer movement Farthest Out.

A Time of Prayer in Action is an invitation to join with others and pray this prayer for an agreed upon specific length of time. An "outline" is included as a guide to an increased understanding of this prayer. The invitation is to pray only *the prayer itself*, allowing God to give inner meaning.

We invite you to engage yourself with his OPEN LETTER TO PRAYING FRIENDS and with the Year of Prayer focus which follows.

A Time of Prayer in Action

AN OPEN LETTER TO PRAYING FRIENDS

My Dear Friends:

I am writing this letter to twenty-five thousand people. If each of you will see that three other people read your copy, then one hundred thousand people in America will read these words. My conscience hurts me that I have not made greater use of this little army that God has made available. Gideon would have picked out three hundred of you long ago and put you through a course of intensive training, and driven the Midianite oppressors from our borders.

We have done some great things together, as many of you will remember. We have prayed and done our best to spread the contagion of the Quiet Hour for individuals, the Prayer Cells for groups, and the Prayer Tower for cities. We have held summer camps. In addition, Starr Daily, Glenn Harding and I have carried the Third Front of Love and Prayer to all the largest cities in the country. All these have been steps in the right direction, and God has blessed them. But **of all these activities mentioned above the camps have been the most effective. The only trouble with them is that they don't reach enough people.**

My chief purpose in writing this letter is to impress upon one hundred thousand people of America in this year of our Lord 1944 that the chief need of the world today is for serious, earnest training in the arts of praying, loving and building a new world.

What can we do to get more people to study spiritual books and practice more spiritual ways of living? One answer came to me this winter. I met several people in different cities whose hobby was giving book reviews. Prayer is an invisible communion that some people cannot take hold of with their hands and see with their eyes; but books are tangible, substantial things that all people can feel and read and study. Prayer groups cannot appeal to everyone, but study groups can.

Therefore, let us have more prayer and study groups. If each one who receives this letter becomes part of or starts a Prayer or Study Group with a focus as suggested here, God's Dream of Peace may yet be realized.

May all your Soul's Sincere Desires for your loved ones and for the world come true in this Year of Prayer.

Sincerely yours,
GLENN CLARK

A YEAR OF PRAYER

Monday

A group of America's spiritual leaders have decided that this year is to be a Year of Prayer. Included in this group are Stanley Jones, Frank Laubach, Starr Daily, Rufus Jones, Glenn Harding, Howard Thurman, Sherry Day, Abraham Vereide, Sam Shoemaker, Glenn Clark, John Magee, O. G. Robinson, Walter Judd and Rufus Moseley. The time has come for prayer to be manifested in action. Helen Shoemaker was appointed to draw up a Pattern of Prayer to guide the thought of Prayers and Prayer Groups into powerful channels. The use of this Pattern of Prayer will help to link up the praying groups all over the country.

PATTERN FOR PRAYERS AND PRAYER GROUPS

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus Christ in the Lord's Prayer gave us the complete pattern for prayer, the perfect balance of praise, petition and affirmation. This outline is merely a suggestion for individual prayers and prayer groups. God Himself will give you and your group more and richer illumination as to the inner meaning of each of our Lord's great phrases. Your part is to pray this great prayer, phrase by phrase, with such selflessness and fervor that it may become a reality.

SALUTATION

"Our Father Who Art In Heaven—Hallowed Be Thy Name."

We praise You, the Father of the whole human family and the whole family of nations.

We praise You for the knowledge that You want us all to know You as The Maker.

We praise You that You want us all to know the freedom, the happiness that comes when we learn from You how to live.

We praise You for the great laws that govern Your world.

We praise You for the great love that seeks our souls.

We praise You for Your overarching power and wisdom, glory and dominion.

**"Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done On Earth
As It Is In Heaven."**

Grant, O Lord, that the rule of Love will come to replace the rule of force in the world.

Grant, O Lord, that the rule of justice and law will replace the rule of men and groups of men on horseback. May we learn to live so that we may achieve that "peace which is the fruit of righteousness."

Grant, O Lord, that men everywhere may come to believe that You are our common Father, and all men are our brothers, and live as though we believed it.

Grant, O Lord, that greed and fear, oppression and aggression, may be driven from the earth and that the Four Freedoms may become a world reality.

We pray, O Lord, that leaders and people in every nation may repent and turn to You and Your way as the only realistic way in which to solve the world's problems.

We pray for the Christians in all countries, that You will so strengthen their faith and increase their courage that they may conquer those countries for Your son by the power of their prayers, as well as by the power of their lives.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, that in every nation she may fearlessly stand for Truth and lead her people in Christ's Way, a Church with supernatural vision, prepared to blaze the trail to a better world.

We in America would humbly repent of our race and class hatred, greed, selfishness and fear, and turn to You to lead us into a new unity where there is justice and equality of opportunity for all.

Grant, O Lord, that the "Perfect Society" as it exists in Your mind in Heaven and mirrored to us in Your Son's teaching and example, may overcome all obstacles and become an actuality in the world.

"Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread."

We ask that You will feed our bodies and grant that the people of the world may learn the principle of caring enough to share so that none may go hungry.

We ask that You will feed our minds—help us so to receive You and Your teaching through Holy Scripture, inspired men and Divine Guidance—that "we may know the Truth and the Truth shall make us free."

We ask that You will feed our hearts and souls—help us so to receive Your Grace through prayer, the sacraments and worship, that You will clothe us with wisdom, courage, and power to know and to do Your will.

**"Forgive Us Our Trespasses
As We Forgive Those Who Trespass Against Us."**

Merciful Father, forgive us that we have so misunderstood Your laws that we have broken them and so have brought famine, war, pestilence and death to Your world.

Forgive us for economic and territorial greed and imperialism;

Forgive us for national self-interest and superiority;

Forgive us for our fear and mistrust of other races and other nations;

Forgive us for our personal hatreds, prejudices and resentments, and change our hearts.

Merciful Father, look down with compassion upon those who are now our enemies. Change their minds and hearts. Instill in them a fresh knowledge of Your Glory and of Your Way, that they may repent of their evil and turn again to You. Where our evils have caused them to be enemies, help us to change and repent of those evils.

Merciful Father, give us the grace "To do unto others as we would be done by," whether those others are individuals, nations or members of other races.

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION AND DELIVERANCE

Friday

"Lead Us Not Into Temptation, But Deliver Us From Evil."

God, Our Father, grant that we may not be tempted beyond our endurance, either in mind, body or soul. We know that the world is full of pitfalls, misunderstandings and confusion. Grant that our faith in You may be so strong that these things may test our steel but not twist it.

God, Our Father, deliver us from the evil of subscribing to fake philosophies, such as Racism, or being tempted to believe in any ways other than The Way of Your Son Jesus Christ.

God, Our Father, we thank You that You and Your Love can deliver us from sorrow, sickness, want and defeat at the hands of every earthly enemy and circumstance.

Help us to remember Your Son's great promise:

**"In the world ye shall have tribulation,
but, be of good cheer,
I have overcome the world."**

THE GREAT AFFIRMATION

Saturday

"For Thine Is The Kingdom, The Power and The Glory Forever."

We thank You, Lord, that Your vision of the Kingdom, the Perfect Society, remains intact when ours gets blurred. Re-illuminate us so that we may see that vision again.

We thank You, Lord, that Your power is infinite. Help us to become channels of Your power so that through us You can heal and restore Your bleeding world.

We thank You, Lord, that Your Glory is enough to illuminate the whole earth. Help us to open men's eyes to see it. Warm men's hearts with it. Light their paths with it. Flood their souls with it.

Amen.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CAMPS FARTHEST OUT

The Camps Farthest Out are based on the knowledge and belief that religion involves the whole man, and that spiritual laws can be learned only through actual experience. The entire program is pointed toward a spiritual fellowship which will so change the life of the individual that he will experience the Kingdom of Heaven right now and continue to have such an experience as long as he applies the principles of Jesus.

Religion is not discussed as a mental ornament to be laid aside when one sees fit, but as a way of life which permeates all areas and functions of life. The camps are training grounds for "athletes of the Spirit," especially intended for those who have heard the Galilean call, "Follow me!"

Lectures, forums, discussion groups and personal conferences provide the intellectual stimulus of the program. The integration of the body—the temple of God—in this spiritual unity is explored and experienced through the rhythmic arts and creative arts. Music, the dance and painting are all utilized. Group singing, folk dancing, and impromptu stunt nights help us to experience living together on this higher level of life.

By living in the Kingdom for twenty-four hours a day, at meals, during leisure time, at resting time, during discussions, lectures, prayer groups, when alone and when with friends—the camper gains all-around experience which will be invaluable to him when he leaves camp.

As tensions are relaxed, the mind at ease and the soul at unity with God, the individual knows the joy of the Kingdom and the confidence of peace which passes all understanding.

Ideas for Action Steps to Take

Glenn Clark also began a prayer center during the early World War II years. Later, the monthly magazine *Manual of Prayer* was published, which Glenn Clark co-edited with Alma Fisher. In each issue the following version of The Lord's Prayer was included.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

An early version

Our Father who art in Heaven, Holy is Thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, in earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day the Bread of Life,
and forgive us our offenses as we forgive those
who offend us.

By Thy Spirit lead us out of all temptation, and deliver us
from evil.

For Thine, Thou Everlasting Lord, is the Kingdom, the Power,
and the Glory forever.

Amen.

This little booklet contains information from the archive
library of CFO International, the worldwide organization
of The Camps Farthest Out.

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