

Meditative written prayer

An everyday missionary's prayer

This prayer is adapted for general use from the original, which we created as a preparation prayer for the worship at a retreat we were leading for a group considering how they could each grow in mission. It's a prayer for everyone – for those who feel they're in the thick of it, for those feeling unsure and nervous about getting involved, for people waiting for confirmation over something, those stepping out into something new, those facing another day of the same who want to stay dependent on God, rather than getting reliant on their own strength, and those wondering whether a season of particular service might be coming to an end...

It's good to return to regularly... and we hope it will help you to simply move with him...

An everyday missionary's prayer

Lord, I'm leaning in close now,
quiet my thoughts so I can hear you speak
and so I can be present to you;
I want to inhabit these words and thoughts I offer
in spirit and in truth...

I have come to worship you –
and to surrender my whole life
as a missional offering to, and for, you.

I want to learn still more how to move with you.
I want you to set the paces and the places;
to walk me forward with you.
Lead me in prayer again
through each area of my life
that you have led me into so far
and each thing on my heart
that you have set before me
for today
and for the future.

They are yours – I am yours –
let me see what you are doing,
hear what you are saying
and do and speak these things in love...
nothing more,
and nothing less.

Show me the walls to take down,
the shelters to build,

the people to reach out to,
the times to act
and the times to wait, rest or stop.

Show me the old dreams to be faithful to
and those to let go of as past their season;
reveal any new visions you have for me
and guide every step towards their becoming reality
in perfect, surrendered timing...

Show me the people to receive from,
to run with and be spurred on by –
and make me brave enough
to see the unique gifts you are giving me
to pour out your love and life
for all who are still 'outside'.

Make me so in tune with you –
in my spirit's core, and through its every outward expression –
that your message rings out clear and loud from me
as a beautiful call to worship that resonates and beckons
others to come close to you too
and to receive your love
and your love-led solution for their need.

It's all for you, with you, in you, through you –
always, only about you; not me –
my precious, sovereign, faithful Lord.