



A Simple Way to Pray

Martin Luther , Matthew Harrison (Translator)

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When asked by his barber and good friend, Peter Beskendorf, for some practical guidance on how to prepare oneself for prayer, Luther responded by writing this brief treatise, first published in the spring of 1535. After 500 years, his instruction continues to offer words of spiritual nurture for us today.

Luther counsels that prayer should begin with *The Lord's Prayer* and then proceed by way of *The Ten Commandments* and *The Apostles' Creed*. He provides practical advice on how the practice of prayer can enhance one's relationship to, and awareness of, God. This is not simply a study about prayer, but is also a guide composed with actual prayers. Considered a devotional classic, this work speaks directly and powerfully to the vital need for the discipline of prayer for today's Christian.

A Simple Way to Pray Details

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From Reader Review A Simple Way to Pray for online ebook

Max Monte says

I found this book to be very helpful to the person who struggles to find meaning in prayer. I find it hard to pray at times because I either don't know what to pray or find myself convinced that God is going to act according to His sovereign will no matter what I pray. This book has made prayer simple and has given me a model by which I can approach God in prayer with gratefulness, confession, and petition.

Seth Nelson says

Luther is the man, this little book is completely on fleek.

Philip Meinel says

I read this in an older publication entitled simply "Luther's Prayers." The prayers are divided into several themed indexes for easy reference. The little red book was my grandmother's, and I've found it a helpful guide. When you don't know the right words, Luther's prayers are very useful. He encourages prayer through the Spirit. Meaning, if you get caught up in a tangent that is specific to your life, go with it. Personal prayer almost always trumps general prayers. Luther's prayers are inspirational, and get the ball rolling in the right direction. God focused, not me focused. Feel free to deviate to wherever the Spirit leads you. But always seek out the answers to your tough questions through the bible. God gave us his word to guide us. God often answers our prayers through his word. Read and pray. Breath in, breath out.

Jonathan Roberts says

I liked this. Was it the best book on prayer ever? Nope. It was a little light on the Gospel but I like the idea of praying the scripture. The idea of praying the same thing everyday could lead to going through the motions but I think using the Lord's Prayer like he does is pretty good, the Ten Commandments and the Apostle's Creed are not as good in my opinion. Wonder if maybe praying through what a person is reading in their private study may be an even better use of our study time and our pray time. Could be something awesome!!!!

Rick Davis says

An excellent and pastoral primer on prayer.

Dabeyta says

If we apply Luther's simple practice of taking scripture and praying through it, phrase by phrase, it will

dramatically change the way we pray, read the Bible, and live our lives.

Jessica Thompson says

Simple yet revolutionary.

Brad says

When Martin Luther's barber asked him how to pray, Luther responded by writing this letter. It's short. And it's a classic. Read it slowly and repeatedly.

Matt Moran says

Wonderful, helpful book.

The book itself (Ligionier) is very poor quality - big type, goofy fonts. I would like to find a nicer copy

James says

In unadorned prose, Luther tells his barber how to pray with special attentiveness to the Lord's Prayer and the 10 commandments.

Matt Sheffield says

Technically, the advice that Luther gives his barber on how to pray is good advice, but he could have done it in 10 pages and not 62. This book is comprised of examples of praying through the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Apostle's Creed. The number of examples he gives were, in my opinion, excessive and the prayers themselves do not really make for great reading.

Vaughn says

This review is of a .pdf version found online by Googling for "A Simple Way to Pray."

Martin Luther wrote this as a letter to his barber on how to structure one's daily prayer life. Though it's short, it's incredibly weighty. This letter, will change the way you pray.

Matt Crawford says

A nice short little read. It has everything a reader of Luther enjoys without being daunting!

Brian says

Simple. Elegant. Practical. At under 100 pages Luther packs a lot of insight into few pages and uses the following structure in teaching prayer: use the Lord's Prayer as your first guide, the Ten Commandments second, and the Apostle's Creed last. And he divides each section of these into four parts. For example, take one of the commandments and think about 1) its instruction, 2) then give thanksgiving for it, 3) confess the sin that prevents you from doing it, and 4) finally, a prayer.

He gives examples of what all of these look like while warning against reading what he's written as the entire prayer itself. He instructs Peter, who the book was written for, to not feel bound by his words but improve upon them as he will.
