

A Prayer for Life

[This prayer is particularly helpful in those seasons where we are being assaulted with death, suffering, or affliction. "In a word, He came to supply all our lack—from the root outward; for what is it we need but more life? What does the infant need but more life?... What does the old man need, whose limbs are weak and whose pulse is low, but more of the life which seems ebbing from him?... 'More life!' is the unconscious prayer of all creation, groaning and travailing for the redemption of its Lord." ~ George MacDonald]

O God, you are my life. You have breathed into me the breath of life, and I have become a living being (Gen 2:7). My very existence and my being flow from you. In you I live and move and have my being (Acts 17:28). You are the Vine, and I am a true branch of yours (John 15:5). Father, you have made me alive with Christ (Eph 2:4-5). Jesus has become my second Adam, a life-giving spirit (1 Cor 15:45). He came that I might have life, and have it abundantly (John 10:10). I have Jesus Christ, and I have his life (1 John 5:12). Christ is now my life (Col 3:4).

Dear Father, I give my life to you to be filled with your life. Restore this frail branch in full union with Jesus who is the Vine. Restore my full union with Christ and with you. I return myself to you—my body, soul, and spirit, heart, mind, and will. I return myself fully to the Source of Life. May I be one with you even as Jesus was one with you (John 10:30, 17:21). Let your life flow through me and flow and flow throughout this day. O Life, live into me. Encompass me and all that I am; well up within me. O Spring of Life, let your river flow through my heart, soul, mind, and strength (John 7:38). You are the God who gives life to the dead (Rom 4:17). And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in me (and you are living in me), he who raised Jesus from the dead will also give life to my mortal body through his Spirit, who lives in me (Rom 8:11). O God, fill me with the resurrection power of Jesus Christ in my body, soul, and spirit.

For it is Christ in me that is my hope of glory (Col 1:27). It is the triumphant life of Jesus Christ that has become my life. I live by him. I reign in life through him, by the life of Christ in me. For if, when I was your enemy, I was reconciled to you through the death of your Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall I be saved through his life (Rom 5:10)? I announce that the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin and death (Rom 8:2). I consecrate my life fully to the Lord Jesus Christ, to be a vessel of his triumphant life.

I now claim the resurrection triumph of Jesus Christ and the power of his empty tomb against all forms of death and destruction come against me. By Jesus Christ and his great work, I cut off every attempt of my enemies to steal, kill, or destroy my life. As Jesus said, no one takes my life from me (John 10:18). Death has no mastery over Jesus now (Rom 6:9), and death has no mastery over me, for I am united with Christ, one Spirit with him (1 Cor 6:17). I am in Christ (1 Cor 1:30). And Christ is in me (Col 1:27). I claim the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus now, against every black law of sin and death and every foul power of destruction aimed against me. By the authority of Jesus Christ I bind and banish all forms of bondage and death from me, now—all spirits, all witchcraft, all foul powers. I cancel all claims against me by the work of Jesus Christ (Col 2:13-15). I claim the resurrection of Christ against my enemies and their devices, and I bind

them from me and send them to their judgment, in the mighty name of Jesus Christ and to his everlasting glory.

I take my place in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and in his life. For I have been raised with Christ to a new life. I present my life to you, Jesus, to be filled with your life. I choose to live by the strength of Jesus Christ and by his mighty life. In Jesus' name, amen.