

Prayers from *Making Crooked Places Straight*

Chapter 1, p.2 – Prayer to Open Eyes to Perverse Spirit

Father God, you are the Maker of heaven and earth. We praise and glorify you. Thank you for leading us into your truth concerning the perverse spirit. We humble ourselves before you. Cover us with the precious blood of Jesus. Open our eyes to see and recognize perverseness in our own thoughts and actions. Give us the desire and the grace to press on to wholeness, in spirit, soul, and body. Only you, Almighty God, can make the crooked places straight so we can shine like stars. We bless you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 1, p. 10 – Trusting God's Grace

Father God, only you know how desperate our hearts cry out to be free. Only you know how to make our crooked places straight. Thank you for grace, your infinite, wonderful, marvelous grace. When overwhelming darkness smothers us, your grace renews our strength. When obstacles cause us to stumble and fall, your grace lifts us up. When life comes crushing down on us, your grace leads us to still waters where we find our rest in you. We trust you and praise you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 12 – Praising God for His Majesty

Oh God, words seem completely inadequate when we praise you. If I spoke this prayer instead of writing it, I would break out in tongues. You are the Great I AM, the Alpha and Omega! Hallelujah to the King of kings! Nothing is impossible with you. Your promises are Yes and Amen, always. Thank you for making our crooked places straight; for breaking the bondages holding us captive; for giving us treasures of wisdom and understanding; for setting us free to shine like stars. You are so worthy, so holy, Lord God Almighty, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 14 – Comforting Prayer for Trauma

Father God, only you know the depths of our devastation, the promises ripped from us, and the raw pain left behind. Let your healing balm flow over us, going into the darkest depths of our beings. When a memory surfaces, and the pain overwhelms again, let your gentle touch remind us we are not alone; we are not abandoned. We have a Father who knows our name and comforts us. Thank you, Lord, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 17 – Healing Prayer for Life Turned Upside Down

Lord God, I bring your precious lambs to you. Broken and hurt, frightened and weary, they need the comfort of our Good Shepherd. Soothe their troubled souls as only you can. Keep them in the bosom of your heart. Whisper hope-filled words into their deepest pain. Carry them through the darkest of nights until they step into the light of your dear Son, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 21 – Healing Prayer for Vicious Words (1)

Abba Father, we come before you today, hearts aching. We cry out with groanings too deep for words. Only you, our Innermost Sanctuary, can heal the festering wounds of vicious and cruel words. We come before your throne of grace, vulnerable and naked, trusting the Shepherd of our souls. Pour the balm of Gilead over us. Bind up our broken hearts. Let your healing virtue flow into the depths of our beings and make us whole.

Lord, we choose to forgive each one who used their words as weapons against us. They too have wounded souls, and we ask you to heal them as well. What the enemy has meant for destruction, Almighty God, we ask you to turn it around and bring great good. We bless you, Lord, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 23 – Prayer of Repentance for our Hurtful Words (2)

Oh God in heaven, our hearts grieve from words we have sent as arrows, damaging others. We cry out as Paul did, "Who can save our wretched souls?" And our answer is the same, "Only Jesus, our Messiah, our Lord." Please forgive us, God, as we cry out for mercy. Wash us with the precious blood of Jesus, and through His blood, bring healing to those we have wounded.

Holy Spirit, we ask for your words to impart grace, not cruelty, and to bring refreshing life, not crushing bondage. We want our speech to be full of truth, wrapped in your unfailing love. Let our words be apples of gold in settings of silver.

Father, please rain down mercy and grace. Soothe our troubled souls as only you can. Hide us under the shadow of your wing and let your blanket of peace cover us. Thank you again, Lord, for straightening crooked places and bringing us to the place where we radiate your light in the dark, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 25 – Prayer of Repentance for Stretching the Truth (2)

Lord, you are the Father of Lights, and we ask for your light to shine in our darkness. Bring healing and wholeness to our souls. Remind us that we find our security in you, our souls are anchored to you, and our hope rests in you.

Abba Father, we ask forgiveness for every time we stretched, distorted, and exaggerated the truth. We repent and purpose to change the way we think. We cry out as David did; we desire truth in our inward parts. Make the crooked places straight in our hearts, our minds, our bodies.

Father of Mercies, let your truth become our plumb line as we walk the Highway of Holiness, our hearts fixed on you. Holy Spirit, thank you for leading and guiding us into the light of truth. Convict us every time we stray from Truth, Jesus Christ. Bring us back into alignment with the Living Word. Deliver us with your truth to live and walk and breathe your freedom. Let the light within us serve as beacons to lead others out of darkness. We worship you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 27 – Healing & Deliverance Prayer for Prolonged Answers (2)

Almighty God, we praise and bless your holy name. You are the Ancient of Days, Wisdom from on high, the Author and Finisher of our faith. You know the end from the beginning, and nothing remains hidden from you. You created time and bestowed it upon us as a gift. Yet the enemy of our souls uses time to hurl false accusations toward you. Forgive us, Lord, for doubting you, for maligning who you are, for thinking and believing the worst about you. Rain down mercy on our souls. Renew a right spirit within us and cleanse us with the blood of Jesus. When we fall, remind us how you faithfully perfect all things concerning us.

I now stand in the gap and lift up every person whose circumstances have been prolonged by the enemy, whose hearts are bruised, battered, and even sickened because of the dangled carrot. In the authority of Jesus' name, I command you, perverse spirit, to stop and cease in your maneuvers. I break your assignment to prolong and delay. I decree and declare it is finished. You cannot succeed in perverting the timing of God. I declare the Lordship of Jesus Christ over this situation, and I thank you, Lord, for bringing about your desired end.

Merciful Father, I ask you to pour the balm of Gilead over damaged souls. Bind up wounds and heal broken hearts. Let their strength be renewed and refreshed by you in the waiting so they can mount up with eagles' wings and soar on your wind, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 32 – Prayer of Repentance for Mishandling Wealth (2)

Oh God, you are awesome in splendor, majestic in beauty. We stand before you in fear and trembling. For along with our fathers and forefathers, we have sinned against you. We lifted another idol to save us. We took the resources you entrusted to us and distorted your divine purposes for them. Instead of trusting you, we built up financial walls to rescue us. We come before you now, condemned and guilty of perverting financial blessings from your hand. We see how truly wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked we are. Jesus, we ask for refining fire to purge the dross out of us, for white garments of holiness to clothe our nakedness, and for eye salve to anoint our eyes so we see with heaven's perspective.

Father, forgive us for our ignorance and arrogance. Cleanse us with the mighty blood of Jesus. We renounce the perverted patterns that set us on a path away from you. We tear down the fraudulent walls we built up. We smash the false images we created. We bind the perverse spirit from our finances and break all assignments against them. As we declare Jesus Lord over them, we determine to establish our finances on your Word and use our wealth to accomplish your purposes. Lord, you are the God of Abundance, Jehovah-Jireh, our Exceedingly Great Reward. Hallelujah, hallelujah to the Great I AM! We praise and bless you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 37 – Prayer of Repentance for the Funhouse Mirrors (2)

Father, you are perfection. No one comes close to your ultimate holiness, your magnificent glory. Because of your indescribable love, you chose to make us like you. And when we chose rebellion, you sent Jesus so we could see what you looked like. And when we crucified Him, you sent the very essence of who you are through Holy Spirit to live on the inside of us.

God, we are weary beyond weary of funhouse mirror images mocking us. We long to see ourselves the way you do. Forgive us for putting others on the highest place in our hearts. Lord, we renounce every form of idolatry. We cast down every idol. We tear down the high places we established out of our wounds and weaknesses. We smash the funhouse mirrors that twisted our views of ourselves, others, and you. We trust you, Father, to heal and restore our souls.

Once again, we declare you, Jesus, Lord over our lives. We exalt you above every other name. We bow before you, the very image of heaven. You are glorious in majesty, and we worship you. Above all, we want to behold you, the Lover of our every breath, as we move and live and have our being in you and you alone, in your holy name we pray. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 43 – Prayer of Repentance Regarding our Employment (2)

Oh God in heaven, our hearts grieve from words we have sent as arrows, damaging others. We cry out as Paul did, "Who can save our wretched souls?" And our answer is the same, "Only Jesus, our Messiah, our Lord." Please forgive us, God, as we cry out for mercy. Wash us with the precious blood of Jesus, and through His blood, bring healing to those we have wounded.

Holy Spirit, we ask for your words to impart grace, not cruelty, and to bring refreshing life, not crushing bondage. We want our speech to be full of truth, wrapped in your unfailing love. Let our words be apples of gold in settings of silver.

Father, please rain down mercy and grace. Soothe our troubled souls as only you can. Hide us under the shadow of your wing and let your blanket of peace cover us. Thank you again, Lord, for

straightening crooked places and bringing us to the place where we radiate your light in the dark, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Now in the mighty name of Jesus, we take authority over you, satan. We bind the perverse spirit from our employment and break his assignment over our work. We declare no weapon formed against us shall prosper and every tongue rising in judgment against us is condemned. This is our inheritance, and our righteousness is found in our Eternal God.

Father, thank you for wisdom and understanding to help us make choices birthed from your heart. Because you establish the work of our hands, we decree that we are fruitful and profitable for the sake of your kingdom. Thank you, Lord, for keeping us busy with the joy of our hearts. We praise and bless you, our Mighty Redeemer, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 45 – Prayer for Perverse Disputings (2)

Lord God, as the Righteous Judge, you sit in the highest place, with heaven your throne and earth your footstool. We come before you with broken hearts, asking you to forgive us for times we meddled and joined forces with the enemy in perverse disputings. Only you know the depth of suffering our words caused in the lives of others.

Father, we repent now and pray for the mind of Christ. We come in agreement with the Spirit of the Living God to stop pursuing our own agendas for other people. Cleanse us with the precious blood of Jesus. Let your grace and mercy fall like rain and restore us. We ask for healing and pray blessings on those whose destinies were twisted by our efforts. Thank you for making their crooked places straight.

Father, we also ask for healing and wholeness in the places perverse disputings left marks and scars on us. Cover every blemish and wound left by the enemy with the imprint of heaven's grace, mercy, and love. We forgive those who interfered in our lives. We bless them and pray their hearts will soften toward you.

We ask you to make straight every place the enemy has woven a crooked trail. Lead us again on paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Redeem the lost years we wandered the winding, crooked paths. Restore the joy of our salvation and let our mourning turn to dancing. We praise and bless you, our Great Redeemer, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 51 – Prayer of Deliverance for Rushing Headlong (2)

Father God, you are the only wise God. Yet, instead of trusting and waiting on you, we rush off half-cocked, eagerly coveting. We grieve your heart deeply. And all for what? How often do we frustrate your grace in our lives? How many times do we stand in the way of your dreams for us? We align ourselves with the enemy and run headlong into bondage.

Lord, have mercy. Deliver us. Rescue us from our rash mistakes. Make the crooked places straight. Let your Word become our path. Let every mark become a landmark, a sign of your grace and mercy.

Father God, we humble ourselves before you and resist the perverse spirit. We break his hold over us in the mighty name of Jesus. We choose to change the way we think, and we purpose in our hearts to seek the mind of Christ. We ask for the spirit of wisdom and revelation to flood our hearts and minds. As we wait on you, Lord, renew our strength so we can soar like eagles. Thank you for your unfailing love for us and great faith in us. We are truly more than conquerors through Christ who loves us, in His holy name we pray. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 53 – Prayer of Repentance for Self-Worship (1)

God, I come to you in fear and trembling. You are holy and awesome, and I have nothing to offer you except my backslidden ways. I neglected you and allowed other things to fill my heart. I deceived myself into thinking I didn't need anyone. I turned away from you and followed what felt good and looked good, all to serve my own purposes. Oh God, I am cold and empty inside. Please have mercy on me. Forgive me and deliver me from this perverse spirit.

Holy Spirit, burn the dross out of me and stir up a holy zeal inside. I renew my betrothal to you, Jesus, my Bridegroom. Seal your love upon me. Let me never again turn from you. You are my all, my everything. I worship you, my God and King, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 56 – Prayer of Repentance for Backsliding (2)

Thank you, Lord, for your unfailing love and mercy. Arms open wide, you run to embrace me. Forgive my backsliding heart. Wash me with the precious blood of Jesus and purge me from my hidden faults. Lead me in paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Lord, set my feet on the Rock that is higher than me. Keep me from falling so I can walk before you in honor. Let your strength be perfected in my weaknesses. Baptize me again with your fire and power so I can walk in victory over the enemy.

In Jesus' name, I renounce my backslidden ways. I declare Jesus is my Lord and Savior. I choose to walk in righteousness before God. Holy Spirit, burn the chaff out of me and help me walk in purity and holiness. Give me a hunger for your Word to settle and establish me. I choose to turn from the vain and useless things of the world and run hard after you. I desire, above all, to be a shining star for you. I praise and bless you, Most Holy God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 58-59 – Deliverance Prayer for Those Incarcerated (2)

God, we stand in the gap for those in prison and ask for a miracle. Invade their cells with your presence. Overshadow them with your glory. Pierce through the darkness on the inside of them. Deliver them from the bondages of the perverse spirit. Let them arise from their graves and shine like stars with the light of Christ. Send anointed men and women to minister your truth because your truth sets the captives free.

Lord Almighty, fill them with a passion for you. Let them become firebrands of glory and bring others to righteousness. As they put off the old man and become clothed with Christ, I ask for favor with the authorities over them. Make a way where there is no way. Prepare them for the freedom they will experience on the outside as they walk out the freedom they have on the inside. Bring others alongside to encourage them to press on. Let them run the race with their faces fixed on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of their faith. They are more than conquerors through Christ who loves them. Glory hallelujah! We bless and praise you, oh Most High God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 62-63 – Deliverance Prayer from Leviathan (2)

Father God, we stand before your majesty with broken and contrite hearts. Our sin of pride has left us weighing in the balance. Our righteousness is nothing but filthy rags in your presence. Our holier-than-thou, self-righteous prayers bring a stench before your throne. Compared to the pure light emanating from your Spirit, our lives are dark caverns full of vain and useless idols. We deserve nothing less than every judgment meted out alongside the wicked.

Lord, we ask forgiveness for causing others to turn from you because of the arrogance we displayed. Jesus, draw each one back to you. Heal their wounded souls. Touch their hearts with your healing balm and restore them to wholeness.

Almighty God, take your two-edged sword and slay this twisted, crooked serpent. Deliver us from the judgment we deserve. Let your mercies rain down on us every morning. With humility for our inner garments, help us to live out your Word and do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before you. Eternal God, we place you on the highest place to rule in our hearts. Hallelujah to the Lamb who was slain! Thank you for your unfailing love and mercy, in Jesus' name . . .

Take more time to worship Jesus. Get on your knees, get on your face, bow your heart and worship Him in spirit and in truth. When you finish, if you ever do, you put the Amen on this prayer.

Chapter 2, p. 65 – Comforting Prayer for Painful Memories

Abba Father, you are the God of all comfort. I ask you to soothe the hearts and minds of those reliving the trauma of agonizing memories. Let your blanket of peace cover them. Hide them under your wing and give them rest for their troubled souls. Jesus, please repair their shattered lives. Pour out your marvelous grace and endless mercy until they rise again with joy in their hearts and songs of praise on their lips, in your precious name. Amen.

Chapter 2, p. 67 – Worship (1)

Lord Most High, you are brilliant! Thank you for all these incredible hidden treasures and secret riches! Your truth brings us freedom in ways we never thought possible. Who would have thought three nails could deliver us? Who would have dreamed a tree could be the instrument to break curses? Who would have imagined a whip could bring healing to broken spirits and sick bodies? Only you could bring forth this master plan to set us free.

We honor you, Jesus, for willingly and joyfully suffering for us. How does someone say thank you to the only One who could save us not just from hell, but from a life of hell? We love you, precious Savior. We are yours and yours alone. Holy Spirit, thank you a million times over for bestowing on us our heavenly rewards. We love and adore you. Glory, glory, glory to our Great and Mighty God!

Chapter 4, p. 84 – Healing Prayer from Rejection (2)

Oh God, we need you desperately. We are so fractured, Lord, so crushed. Pour the balm of Gilead upon our wounds. Let your healing virtue flow from your nail-scarred hands. Cover us with your precious blood. Father, we forgive every person who rejected us. Heal their wounded souls and repair their breaches. Bring them into wholeness. Draw them with cords of strong love into your family.

Lord, we repent for using our gifts to gain acceptance. Cleanse us and renew a right spirit within us. You are the Shepherd of our souls, and we cling to you. Walk into our yesterdays, close the doors to the places rejection came calling, and lead us in paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

God, remind us of who we are. Accepted in the Beloved. Given the spirit of adoption. Sealed upon your heart. Embraced with your unfailing love. All that we are, all that we have is in you. We open our hearts to the depth and height and length and width of your endless love. We worship and adore you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 4, p. 88 – Prayer on Behalf of Those Moving in the Flesh (2)

Lord God, I come before you to stand in the gap on behalf of the leadership and the people in this meeting. We have sinned against you and you alone. We followed our own agendas and brushed aside

yours. Forgive us for yielding to our flesh. Forgive us for not honoring your perfect plans above our own selfish goals. Holy Spirit, bring us back to the place we walked in before flesh began to lead.

In Jesus' name, I release the apostolic anointing, drawing every person into the highest place you have for them. I bind the perverse spirit from operating here, and I forbid him to manifest in any way. I once again lift up the name of Jesus and declare his Lordship over this meeting.

Almighty God, we choose to lay down our plans and look unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. I declare that we all hear your voice and quickly obey. Holy Father, thank you for bringing everyone back to the high call of Christ in this gathering. I praise and bless you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Does this work? Yes. The real keys in a prayer of this nature are threefold: A sincere heart of repentance in the one interceding, a release of the apostolic anointing, and a heart yielded to Holy Spirit. With this combination, the anointing flows again, the people revel in God's glories and grace, and the Lord Most High receives honor. Hallelujah!

Chapter 4, p. 91 – Prayer for Healing Church Splits (2)

Oh God in heaven, forgive us for opening doors to the perverse spirit, causing splits. We acted corruptly to achieve our own purposes. We took your name in vain to use for our own gain. We distorted truth to draw others after ourselves instead of pointing them to Jesus. We were more interested in our own puffed-up ideals than being yoked with the Savior and learning from Him. God, we are guilty as charged. We have no excuses. Our sin glares before us.

Forgive us and have mercy. Wash and cleanse us with the precious blood of Jesus. Bring us back into right relationship with you. Renew a right spirit within us. Repair every breach and bridge every schism.

Righteous God, we forgive those who wronged us, who led us astray by manipulating the truth. Set our feet once again on the Highway of Holiness as we follow hard after you. We also bring before you others affected by splits. Heal their wounded souls. Restore the joy of their salvation. Lead them on paths of righteousness back into the fold of the Shepherd of their souls. Make every crooked place straight in all of our lives. Let the banner of truth and righteousness wave once again over every church and home that they may be beacons of light, shining stars in the dark. Glory, glory, glory to our Most High King, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 5, p. 104 – Sample Prayer for Down Syndrome (Modify for Other Birth Defects) (1)

Lord, in Jesus' name, I take authority over the perverse spirit and bind him from operating in Nicole's life. I cover her with the blood of Jesus. The enemy has no authority over her. I command the extra chromosome 21 to drop off every DNA strand, and I declare all effects of Down syndrome null and void. As the extra chromosome 21 detaches and falls away, I speak to every part of her body to line up with the Word of God. By His stripes, she is made whole. Thank you, Father, for what you're doing in her life. What an honor to see your marvelous works manifested in Nicole. All praises to the only wise God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter 8, p. 142 – Prayer for Victory (1)

Father God, we purpose in our hearts to press toward that mark. We want the prize of the high calling you have for us. We want what Jesus, our Savior, holds in His hands for us—the destiny Father, Son, and Holy Spirit planned with us in mind before the foundation of the world.

Lord, we want the crooked places made straight in our lives. We're ready to walk straight paths leading to the Highway of Holiness. We want fresh starts and new beginnings. We want our lives to be shining examples to lead others out of darkness. But we can't do it on our own. We can only rest in your

promises, the Yes and Amen ones found in Christ Jesus. Glory, hallelujah to our Great God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.