



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

Teach Us To Pray.

*Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take.*

"A German version of this prayer was popular in the later Medieval period, and it ultimately spread to England. The rhyme came to be called "The Four Corners Prayer," first published in English by author Thomas Ady in the 1600s. Eventually, the rhyme we know today appeared in the 1737 edition of the New England Primer book by Thomas Fleet. As a poem or prayer, it was included among the readings in several hymnals. The rhyme is also a staple in books of Mother Goose © rhymes. Since its writing, the poem has inspired artists from portrait painters to several bands and was recited in several movies." ¹

Jesus' disciples did say "Lord, teach us to pray.." in Luke 11:1. But He did not respond with the above prayer. He did respond in Luke 11 and in Matthew 6 with what we know today as "The Lord's Prayer." Also in Matthew 6, the Lord states other instructions on prayer, "But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions...when thou prayest, enter into thy closet...for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask Him."

Our neighbor's child at age 20 months was not saying anything that was understandable. They contacted a local specialist who has been working with her for six months. When we watch Amey, we also work with her and help teach her to talk. She is now saying words but not in sentences. Many will agree that once a child learns to talk, there will be no way to keep him or her quiet.

"Prayer is supposed to be living and vibrant communication between us and our Heavenly Father. Just as it would be strange to deliver a memorized speech in a conversation with another human being, so can it be inappropriate to recite memorized words to God in an impersonal and impassionate manner."²

Because God is always present, always accessible, always listening and always loving, we can always communicate with Him directly. Pray consists of Praise, Repentance, Asking, and Yourself. Try talking to Him just like you are talking to another human. The only difference is that He cannot verbally talk back directly because His direct voice will destroy us. He may not answer in the way or timing you want but you will eventually agree that His answer was the best for you. If you know how to talk, you know how to pray. Then comes wait and trust. Do not forget to say "thank you and forgive me."



Charles L Stambaugh

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb 4:16

"The only person that can keep us from praying is ourselves."



¹ crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/is-now-i-lay-me-down-to-sleep-biblical.html

² gotquestions.org/now-i-lay-me-down-to-sleep-prayer.html

The written text (unless indicated) within New Heart Beat Devotions media is licensed by Charles Stambaugh © If you have questions, comments, or want to discuss about our Lord, you can contact Charles at PO Box 612 Mt Wolf PA 17347 or at NHBDevotions@gmail.com New Heart Beat Devotions is not affiliated with any other church or organization. All verses shown are all from the King James Version unless otherwise noted.