

forty days

OF PRAYING THE WORD

Prepare your heart this Easter season by taking time each day to praise the Lord with the words of the Bible.

1

YOU ANSWER OUR PRAYERS.

You faithfully answer our prayers with awesome deeds, O God our savior. You are the hope of everyone on earth, even those who sail on distant seas. You formed the mountains by your power and armed yourself with mighty strength.

Psalm 65:5-8

REFLECTIONS

2

YOU KEEP YOUR PROMISES WITH UNFAILING LOVE.

O LORD , God of Israel, there is no God like you in all of heaven above or on the earth below. You keep your covenant and show unfailing love to all who walk before you in wholehearted devotion.

1 Kings 8:23

REFLECTIONS

3

YOU RESCUE THE HUMBLE.

To the faithful you show yourself faithful; to those with integrity you show integrity. To the pure you show yourself pure, but to the wicked you show yourself hostile. You rescue the humble, but you humiliate the proud.

Psalm 18:25-27

REFLECTIONS

4

FORGIVE MY HIDDEN SINS.

How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.

Psalm 19:12-13

REFLECTIONS

5

REMEMBER YOUR UNFAILING LOVE.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and unfailing love, which you have shown from long ages past. Do not remember the rebellious sins of my youth. Remember me in the light of your unfailing love, for you are merciful, O Lord.

Psalm 25:6-7

REFLECTIONS

6

FORGIVE MY MANY SINS!

For the honor of your name, O LORD, forgive my many, many sins. Turn to me and have mercy, for I am alone and in deep distress. My problems go from bad to worse. Oh, save me from them all!

Psalm 25:11, 16-17

REFLECTIONS

7

HOW AWESOME ARE YOUR DEEDS!

How awesome are your deeds! Your enemies cringe before your mighty power. Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing your praises, shouting your name in glorious songs.

Psalm 66:3-4

REFLECTIONS

8

YOUR FORGIVENESS GIVES ME JOY.

Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty!

Psalm 32:1-2

REFLECTIONS

9

YOUR MAJESTIC NAME FILLS THE EARTH!

O LORD , our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. You have taught children and infants to tell of your strength, silencing your enemies and all who oppose you.

Psalm 8:1-2

REFLECTIONS

10

RESCUE ME FROM MY REBELLION.

Rescue me from my rebellion. Do not let fools mock me. I am silent before you; I won't say a word, for my punishment is from you. Hear my prayer, O LORD ! Listen to my cries for help! Don't ignore my tears.

Psalm 39:8-9; 12

REFLECTIONS

11

I WILL PRAISE YOU WITH ALL OF MY HEART!

I will praise you, LORD , with all my heart; I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done. I will be filled with joy because of you. I will sing praises to your name, O Most High.

Psalm 9:1-2

REFLECTIONS

12

REMOVE THE STAIN OF MY SINS.

Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin.

Psalm 51:1-2

REFLECTIONS

13

WASH ME CLEAN, LORD.

Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—now let me rejoice. Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt.

Psalm 51:7-9

REFLECTIONS

14

YOU WILL NOT REJECT A REPENTANT HEART.

You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering. The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

Psalm 51:16-17

REFLECTIONS

15

YOUR NAME ENDURES FOREVER!

Your name, O LORD, endures forever; your fame, O LORD, is known to every generation. For the LORD will give justice to his people and have compassion on his servants.

Psalm 135:13-14

REFLECTIONS

16 TEACH ME BETTER JUDGMENT.

You have done many good things for me, LORD, just as you promised. I believe in your commands; now teach me good judgment and knowledge. I used to wander off until you disciplined me; but now I closely follow your word.

Psalm 119:65–67

REFLECTIONS

17 YOU HAVE SET ME IN A SAFE PLACE.

I will be glad and rejoice in your unfailing love, for you have seen my troubles, and you care about the anguish of my soul. You have not handed me over to my enemies but have set me in a safe place.

Psalm 31:7–8

REFLECTIONS

18 I THRIVE IN YOUR LOVE.

I am like an olive tree, thriving in the house of God. I will always trust in God's unfailing love. I will praise you forever, O God, for what you have done. I will trust in your good name in the presence of your faithful people.

Psalm 52:8–9

REFLECTIONS

19 EACH MORNING I WILL SING TO YOU.

As for me, I will sing about your power. Each morning I will sing with joy about your unfailing love. For you have been my refuge, a place of safety when I am in distress.

Psalm 59:16

REFLECTIONS

20 YOUR NAME IS FULL OF POWER!

LORD, there is no one like you! For you are great, and your name is full of power. Who would not fear you, O King of nations? That title belongs to you alone! Among all the wise people of the earth and in all the kingdoms of the world, there is no one like you.

Jeremiah 10:6–7

REFLECTIONS

21 YOUR DISCIPLINE TEACHES ME JOY.

Joyful are those you discipline, LORD, those you teach with your instructions. You give them relief from troubled times until a pit is dug to capture the wicked.

Psalm 94:12-13

REFLECTIONS

22 SEARCH MY HEART AND HELP ME PLEASE YOU.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalm 139:23-24

REFLECTIONS

23 YOUR DISCIPLINE LEADS TO LIFE!

Lord, your discipline is good, for it leads to life and health. You restore my health and allow me to live!

Isaiah 38:16

REFLECTIONS

24 ONLY YOU CAN TRULY HEAL AND SAVE ME.

O LORD, if you heal me, I will be truly healed; if you save me, I will be truly saved. My praises are for you alone!

Jeremiah 17:14

REFLECTIONS

25 I REPENT OF MY REBELLION.

LORD, see my anguish! My heart is broken and my soul despairs, for I have rebelled against you.

Lamentations 1:20

REFLECTIONS

26

HAVE MERCY ON ME.

O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.

Luke 18:13

REFLECTIONS

27

DON'T LET ME MISS THE WAY.

Because of your unfailing love, I can enter your house; I will worship at your Temple with deepest awe. Lead me in the right path, O LORD, or my enemies will conquer me. Make your way plain for me to follow.

Psalm 5:7-8

REFLECTIONS

28

SHOW ME THE RIGHT PATH.

O LORD, I give my life to you. Show me the right path, O LORD; point out the road for me to follow. Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you.

Psalm 25:1, 4-5

REFLECTIONS

29

TEACH ME HOW TO LIVE WITH MY ENEMIES.

Teach me how to live, O LORD. Lead me along the right path, for my enemies are waiting for me. Yet I am confident I will see the LORD's goodness while I am here in the land of the living.

Psalm 27:11, 13

REFLECTIONS

30

SEND YOUR LIGHT TO GUIDE ME.

Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me. Let them lead me to your holy mountain, to the place where you live. There I will go to the altar of God, to God—the source of all my joy.

Psalm 43:3-4

REFLECTIONS

31

SHOW ME THE WAY TO YOUR SAFETY.

O God, listen to my cry! Hear my prayer! From the ends of the earth, I cry to you for help when my heart is overwhelmed. Lead me to the towering rock of safety, for you are my safe refuge, a fortress where my enemies cannot reach me.

Psalm 61:1-3

REFLECTIONS

32

SEND ME A SIGN OF YOUR FAVOR.

You, O Lord, are a God of compassion and mercy, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness. Look down and have mercy on me. Send me a sign of your favor.

Psalm 86:15-17

REFLECTIONS

33

GUIDE MY STEPS BY YOUR WORD.

Your laws are wonderful. No wonder I obey them! The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.

Psalm 119:129-130

REFLECTIONS

34

**I AM SO DISCOURAGED.
SHOW ME THE WAY OUT!**

Come quickly, LORD, and answer me, for my depression deepens. Don't turn away from me, or I will die. Let me hear of your unfailing love each morning, for I am trusting you.

Psalm 143:7-8

REFLECTIONS

35

I KEEP PRAYING TO YOU.

I keep praying to you, LORD, hoping this time you will show me favor. In your unfailing love, O God, answer my prayer with your sure salvation.

Psalm 69:13

REFLECTIONS

36

YOU SHIELD ME FROM HARM.

O LORD, I have so many enemies; so many are against me. So many are saying, "God will never rescue him!" But you, O LORD, are a shield around me; you are my glory, the one who holds my head high.

Psalm 3:1-3

REFLECTIONS

37

HEAR MY CRY FOR HELP!

O LORD, hear me as I pray; pay attention to my groaning. Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for I pray to no one but you. Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly.

Psalm 5:1-3

REFLECTIONS

38

YOU KNOW THE HOPES OF THE HELPLESS.

LORD, you know the hopes of the helpless. Surely you will hear their cries and comfort them. You will bring justice to the orphans and the oppressed, so mere people can no longer terrify them.

Psalm 10:17-18

REFLECTIONS

39

NO ONE IS STRONGER THAN YOU!

Your right hand, O LORD, is glorious in power. Your right hand, O LORD, smashes the enemy. In the greatness of your majesty, you overthrow those who rise against you. You unleash your blazing fury; it consumes them like straw.

Exodus 15:6-7

REFLECTIONS

40

YOU HAVE RESCUED ME.

My heart rejoices in the LORD! The LORD has made me strong. Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me. No one is holy like the LORD! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

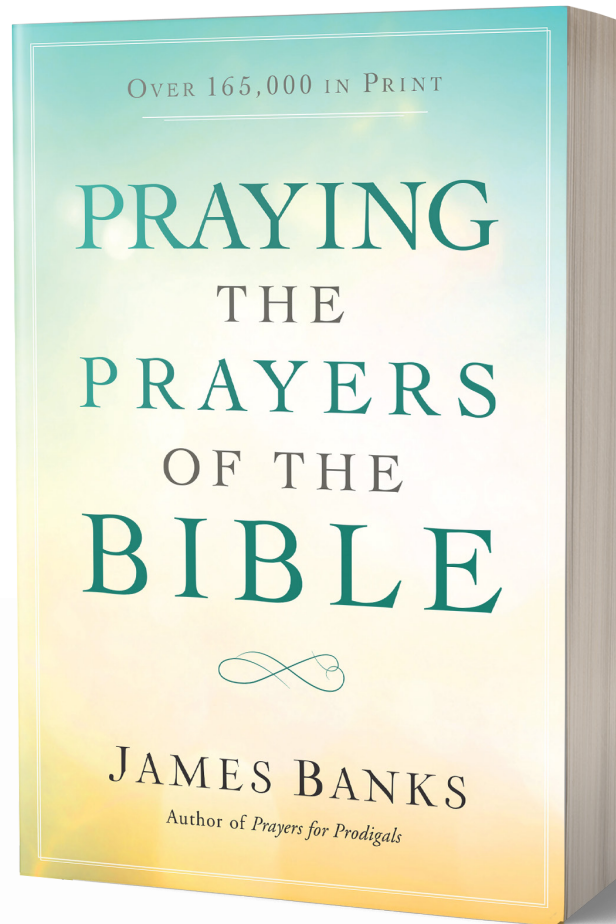
1 Samuel 2:1-2

REFLECTIONS

Our thanks to *Our Daily Bread* author, James Banks, for guiding us through these 40 days of reflection with selections from his book

Praying the Prayers of the Bible.

www.dhp.org/banks



EACH MORNING I WILL
Sing ^{WITH} Joy
ABOUT YOUR
UNFAILING LOVE.

FOR YOU HAVE BEEN MY

Refuge.

A PLACE OF SAFETY

WHEN I AM IN DISTRESS.

PSALM 59:16