

1: A Manual of Prayers for the Use of the Scholars of Winchester College

*The Key of Heaven: Or, a Manual of Prayer [Anonymous] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it.*

Printed for John Martyn, An Exhortation to Young Philotheus. IF you have any regard, good Philotheus, to your own eternal happiness, it ought to be your chiefest care to serve and glorifie God. The one teaches you what you are to do, Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth. The other teaches you what you are to avoid, Fly youthful lusts; that is, all those sins which are usually incident to young persons. You cannot imagine the unspeakable advantages a pious youth gains by the practice of these two Rules; and how many ghostly dangers that Soul escapes, which is seasoned betimes with the fear of God, before he is sullied with ill Company, before he hath contracted vitious habits, which will cost him infinite pains to unlearn, before his affections are too far engaged in the World, to be easily recalled, and before the Devil hath got too strong a hold in him, to be suddenly dispossessed. O Philotheus, do but ask any one old Penitent, what fruit, what satisfaction he hath purchast to himself, by all those pleasures of sin, which flattered him in his youth, and of which he is now ashamed. Will he not sadly tell you, he has found them all, to be but vanity, and vexation of Spirit? How will he befool himself, for the many good opportunities he hath lost, and wish a thousand times, that he were to live over his mispent days again? And how bitterly will he with David, bewail the sins of his youth? Learn then, good Phil. Do but consider, how welcome a young Convert is to God; it was to young Samuel that God revealed himself, and that at such a time too, when the Word of God was pretious, and very rare, to shew how much God honoured a young Prophet; and you know that St. John, the youngest of all the Disciples, is the only person of all the twelve; who was permitted to lean on our Saviours bosome, at the last Supper, as dearest to Him in affection, and who is emphatically called, the Disciple whom Jesus loved: O Philotheus, let this Heavenly promise, excite in you a great zeal to seek God, and to seek Him early; for if you do seek, you are sure to find Him; you are sure, when you have found Him, He will love you, and you shall reap, all the happy effects of Gods infinite Love, and of an early Piety. God of his great mercy, Philotheus, make these and the like considerations, effectual to create, holy Resolutions in you, and give you grace, to make good use of these following Directions, which are designed to teach you, to fear the Lord from your youth, and are suited to your particular Age, and Condition, in hope they may the more affect you. God grant they may. AS soon as ever you awake in the morning, good Philotheus, strive as much as you can, to keep all worldly thoughts out of your mind, till you have presented, the first fruits of the day to God, which will be an excellent preparative, to make you spend the rest of it the better; and therefore be sure to sing the Morning and Evening Hymn in your Chamber devoutly, remembring that the Psalmist, upon happy experience assures you, that it is a good thing, to tell of the loving kindness of the Lord early in the morning, and of his truth in the night season. When you are ready, look on your Soul as still untill you have said your Prayers. If you are a Commoner, you may say your prayers in your own Chamber; but if you are a Child or a Chorister, then to avoid the interruptions of the Common Chambers, go into the Chappel, between first and second Peal in the Morning, to say your Morning Prayer, and say your Evening Prayer when you go Circum. Now that every one, may have his duty proportioned to his capacity, the best way is to distinguish, two degrees of young Christians in this Colledge, namely, those that are of an Age capable of receiving the Holy Sacrament, and those that are not; and in one of the two degrees you are to rank your self. Directions for the Youngest. Glory be to Thee, O Lord God, for all the blessings I dayly receive from Thee, and for Thy particular preservation, and refreshment of me, this night past. O Lord have mercy upon me, and forgive, whatsoever Thou hast seen amiss in me, this night; and for the time to come, give me grace, to fly all youthful lusts, and to remember Thee, my Creatour, in the days of my youth. Shower down Thy graces and blessings on me, and on all my Relations [on my Father and Mother, on my Brethren and Sisters] on all my Friends, on all my Governours in this place, and on all my Fellow-Scholars, and give Thy Angels charge over us, to protect us all from sin and danger. Lord bless me in my Learning this day, that I may every day grow more fit for Thy service. O pardon my failings, and do

more for me, then I can ask, or think, for the merits of Jesus my Saviour, in whose holy words I sum up all my wants. O Lord have mercy upon me, and forgive, whatsoever Thou hast seen amiss in me, this day past, and for the time to come, give me grace, to fly all youthful lusts, and to remember Thee my Creatour, in the days of my youth. Lord receive me, and all my Relations, and all that belong to this Colledge, into Thy gracious protection this night, and send me such seasonable rest, that I may rise the next morning, more fit for thy service. Lord hear my prayers, and pardon my failings, for the merits of my blessed Saviour, in whose holy words, I sum up all my wants. A Meditation on the Holy Child Jesus. O blessed Saviour, give me grace like Thee, to make Religion my first, and chiefest care, and devoutly to observe, all solemn times, and all holy Rites, which relate to Thy worship. Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus, Glory be to Thee, who when Thy Parents returned home, didst stay behind in Jerusalem, and after three days, wast found of them in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the Doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. O blessed Saviour, who in Thy very Childhood, didst triumph over all the vain delights of youth; and wouldst choose no place, but the Temple to reside in, Mortifie in me, all inordinate love of sensual pleasure, which may pervert me from my duty; raise in me an awful reverence of Thy House, an early devotion in my Prayers, and a delight in Thy Praises. O blessed Jesu, who didst choose before all others, the company of the Doctors, and didst both hear them, and ask them Questions; give me grace to abhor all lewd company, and all filthy communication, give me grace to love wise, and sober, and profitable, and religious conversation, and to be diligent, and inquisitive after learning, and whatsoever is good. O blessed Jesu, who from Thy infancie didst make it Thy whole employment, to do Thy Fathers will, kindle in me a forward zeal for Thy Glory, that I may consecrate my youth to Thy service, and make it the great business of my life, to know and fear, to love and obey, my Heavenly Father. O blessed Jesu, give me grace to honour my Parents, and Governours, and readily to obey all their lawful commands! Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus, Glory be to Thee, who in those tender years, wert blessed with such Heavenly wisdom, that all that heard Thee, were astonished at Thy understanding and answers, who didst dayly increase in this Heavenly wisdom, and in favour with God and Man! O Lord Jesu, bless me with all abilities of mind and body, that may make me dayly increase in my Learning; but above all, bless me with Wisdom from above, and give me Thy Holy Spirit to assist, and enlighten me, that as I grow in Age, I may dayly grow in Grace, and in the knowledge of Thee, and in favour with God and Man; and every day more and more conformable to Thy Unsinning and Divine example. Amen, Lord Jesus, Amen. Directions for those that are more grown in years. Ejaculations at waking or rising. Awake, O my Soul, and Sing praises to God. Glory be to Thee, O God, for watching over me this night. Lord raise me up at the last day, to life everlasting. Early in the morning will I cry unto Thee, Lord hear my Prayer. Glory be to Thee, Lord God Almighty, Glory be to Thee, for renewing Thy mercies to me every morning; Glory be to Thee, for refreshing me this night with sleep, and for preserving me from the perils of darkness. O do away, as the night, so my transgressions; scatter my sins as the Morning Cloud! Lord forgive, whatever Thou hast seen amiss in me this night, [my -- Here if you are conscious to your self of any sin committed in the night, confess it. And let Thy Holy Spirit so prevent, and accompany, and follow me this day, that I may believe in Thee, and love Thee, and keep Thy Commandments, and continue in Thy fear all the day long. Lord make me chaste and temperate, humble and adviseable, diligent in my studies, obedient to my Superiours, and charitable to all men. Lord deliver me, from sloth and idleness, from youthful lusts, and ill company, from all dangers bodily and ghostly, and give me grace, to remember Thee my Creatour, in the days of my youth. Bless and defend, and save the King, and all the Royal Family, and all Orders of men amongst us, Ecclesiastical or Civil; Lord give them all grace, in their several stations, to be instrumental to Thy glory and the publick good. Together with them, I commend to Thy Divine Providence [my Father and Mother, my Brethren and Sisters,] all my Friends and Relations, all my Superiours in this place, and all my Fellow-Scholars; O Lord vouchsafe us all, those graces and blessings, which Thou knowest to be most suitable for us. Directions for Reading Holy Scripture. When you have said your Morning Prayer, good Phil. But first, if you have time, I advise you to read before second Peal, some short Psalm, or piece of a Chapter, out of the Gospels, or Historical Books, because they are the most easie to be understood; Remembring the example of young Timothy, who was bred up to know, the Scripture from a Child. But if you want time on ordinary days, to read the Scripture, be sure to read somewhat

of it on Sundays, and Holy-days; and consider, that you have it dayly read to you in the Hall before Dinner and Supper, and at night when you are just going to Bed, that you may close the day with holy thoughts; and if you hearken diligently to it when it is read, you do in effect read it your self. Now to make your reading, the more profitable to you, begin with one, or more, of these Ejaculations. Ejaculations before reading Holy Scripture. Wherewithal, Lord, shall a young man cleanse his way? Lord open my eyes, that I may see the wonderful things of Thy Law! I humbly beg Thy Holy Spirit, so to help me at this time to read, and understand, and remember, and practise Thy Word, that it may make me wise to salvation! When you are thus prepared, good Phil. For instance, If you read any of Gods commands, they should excite in you a zeal to keep them. If you read any of Gods threatnings against sinners, or his judgments on them, they should excite in you a fear to provoke him. When you read any of his gracious promises, they should encourage and quicken your obedience. When you read any of Gods mercies, they should excite you to thanksgiving. When you read any great mystery, recorded in holy Writ, you are to prostrate your Reason to Divine Revelation. And to this purpose in the midst of your Reading, say, Lord give me grace to obey this command; Or, Lord deliver me from this sin, or this judgment; Or, Lord I relie on this good promise; Or, Glory be to Thee, O Lord, for this mercy; Or, Lord I believe and adore this mystery. Say any of these, according as best agrees with the subject you read; and when you have read as much as conveniently you can, conclude with one of these Ejaculations. Lord make Thy Word a Lanthorn unto my feet, and a Light unto my paths! Lord make Thy Word my delight, and my Counsellour! Directions for the Day time. O Philotheus, you cannot enough thank God for the order of the place you live in, where there is so much care taken to make you a good Christian as well as a good Scholar, where you go so frequently to Prayers every day, in the Chappel, and in the School; and sing Hymns and Psalms to God so frequently in your Chamber, and in the Chappel, and in the Hall, so that you are in a manner brought up, in a perpetuity of prayer. Not that we can be always on our knees, but that we should accustom our selves to frequent thoughts of God, that where-ever we are He sees us; and when we think on God, we should have always an ejaculation ready to offer up to Him, and by this means we may pray, not only seven times a day with David, but all the day long. In your reading holy Scripture, especially in the Psalms, you may easily gather those short sentences which most affect you, for they are most proper for this use; and when you have learned them without Book, say one of them now and then, as they occur to your mind, or as occasion requires, or as your devotion prompts you. But be not troubled, if being otherwise lawfully employed, or if being indisposed, you pass a whole day without saying any, for to omit them is no sin; nor be you scrupulous in what posture you say them, for they being short breathings of the soul to God, require not that solemnity, as Set Prayer does. Now to give you some instances of ejaculatory Prayer, take these following. Lord bless my going out, and my coming in, from this time forth for evermore. After a sin committed. Lord be merciful to me miserable sinner, and for the merits of my Saviour, lay not this sin to my charge. After any blessing or Deliverance. O Lord, who didst not despise the Widows mite, Accept of this little I now give, to relieve one of Thy poor members! After having done any good. Not unto me, O Lord, not unto me, but unto Thy Name be the praise. Lord succour me with Thy Grace, that I may overcome this Temptation. Directions for the Evening. I advise you therefore towards night, or when you go circum, to call your self to an account how you have spent the day. Examine your thoughts and discourses, and actions, and Recreations, and Devotions, and see what has been amiss in any of them. Consider what Idleness, or Unchastity, what lying or stubbornness you have been guilty of; or whether you have had a quarrel with any of your fellows; and if you have, be sure to be friends with him, before you say your prayers. Again, Consider what particular blessing, or deliverance, God has vouchsafed you the day past, that you may give thanks for it, and then say as follows. Let my prayer, O Lord, be set forth in Thy sight as Incense, and the lifting up of my hands, be as an Evening Sacrifice! Holy, holy, holy Lord God, I miserable sinner humbly acknowledge, that I have offended Thee this day, in thought, word, and deed, [Particularly by -- Here mention any sin you have been guilty of. Accept of my Humblest Praise and Thanksgiving, O Lord, for all the goodness Thou hast this day shewed me; for all the Helps of preventing, or restraining grace, Thou hast vouchsafed me, for whatever I have done this day, which is in any measure acceptable to Thee, for whatever progress I have made in my Study, for Thy Preservation of me, from all the miseries and dangers, which frail Mortality, is every moment exposed to; [Particularly for --

Here name any particular blessing, or deliverance, God has sent you. O Heavenly Father, to Thy Almighty Protection I recommend my self, and all my Relations, and all that belong to this Colledge; O Thou that never slumbrest nor sleepest, watch over us, to preserve us from sin, and danger. Lord, let it be Thy good pleasure, to refresh me this night with such seasonable rest, that I may rise the next morning more fit for Thy service; O pardon my failings, and hear my prayers, for the sake of my blessed Saviour, in whose Holy words, I sum up all my wants. Ejaculations at going to Bed. IF you chance to wake in the Night, or cannot sleep, Beware, Phil. Ejaculations for the Night.

2: The Key of Heaven, or a Manual of Prayer

Read Manual of Prayer Part 5 of A Manual of Prayer from author Albert Barnes. Find more Christian classics for theology and Bible study at Bible Study Tools.

True to the Faith , 23 You are a child of God. Your Heavenly Father loves you and knows your needs, and He wants you to communicate with Him through prayer. Pray to Him and no one else. As you make a habit of approaching God in prayer, you will come to know Him and draw ever nearer to Him. Your desires will become more like His. You will be able to secure for yourself and for others blessings that He is ready to give if you will but ask in faith. Principles of Prayer Your Heavenly Father is always ready to hear and answer your prayers. The power of your prayers depends on you. As you strive to make prayer a part of your life, remember this counsel: Make your prayers meaningful. Give serious thought to your attitude and to the words you use. Use language that shows love, respect, reverence, and closeness. The application of this principle will vary according to the language you speak. If you pray in English, for example, you should use the pronouns of the scriptures when you address God—Thee, Thou, Thy, and Thine, rather than the more common pronouns you, your, and yours. Regardless of the language, the principle remains the same: When you pray, you should use words that appropriately convey a loving, worshipful relationship with God. You may have some difficulty learning the language of prayer, but you will gradually become more comfortable with it as you pray and read the scriptures. Always give thanks to your Heavenly Father. As you take time to remember your blessings, you will recognize how much your Heavenly Father has done for you. Express your thanks to Him. Alma counseled his son Helaman: Remember the needs of others as you pray. Ask your Heavenly Father to bless and comfort those in need. Ask Him to inspire and strengthen the President of the Church, other General Authorities, and your local Church leaders. Pray for the welfare of family members and friends. Pray for government leaders. Ask the Lord to inspire and protect the missionaries and the people they are teaching. Seek the guidance of the Holy Ghost so you will know what to include in your prayers. The Holy Ghost can teach you to pray and guide you in the things you say see Romans 8: When you make a request through prayer, do all you can to assist in its being granted. Heavenly Father expects you to do more than merely ask Him for blessings. Your prayers for guidance will be only as effective as your efforts to be receptive to the whisperings of the Holy Ghost. If you have a difficult task before you, Heavenly Father is pleased when you get on your knees and ask for help and then get on your feet and go to work. He will help you in all your righteous pursuits, but He seldom will do something for you that you can do yourself. Personal, private prayer is an essential part of your spiritual development. At least every morning and every night, find a place that is free from distractions. Kneel in humility and commune with your Heavenly Father. Remember that prayer is two-way communication. As you close your prayers, take time to pause and listen. At times, Heavenly Father will counsel, guide, or comfort you while you are on your knees. Never give in to the idea that you are not worthy to pray. If you do not feel like praying, pray until you do feel like praying. Throughout each day, you can maintain a constant feeling of love for your Heavenly Father and His Beloved Son. You can silently express gratitude to your Father and ask Him to strengthen you in your responsibilities. In times of temptation or physical danger, you can silently ask for His help. Family Prayer In addition to commanding us to pray in private, the Savior has exhorted us to pray with our families. Every morning and every evening, kneel together in humility. Give each family member frequent opportunities to say the prayer. Unite in gratitude for the blessings Heavenly Father has given you. Unite in faith to plead for the blessings you need and to pray for others. Through regular family prayer, you and your family members will draw nearer to God and to each other. Your children will learn to communicate with their Father in Heaven. You will all be better prepared to serve others and withstand temptations. Your home will be a place of spiritual strength, a refuge from the evil influences of the world. Public Prayer At times you may be asked to offer a public prayer, perhaps in a Church meeting or class. When you receive this opportunity, remember that you are communicating with Heavenly Father, not giving a public sermon. Do not worry about what others may think of what you say. Instead, offer a simple, heartfelt prayer. Heavenly Father hears your prayers. He may not always answer as you expect, but

He does answerâ€”in His own time and according to His will. Because He knows what is best for you, He may sometimes answer no, even when your petitions are sincere. Answers to prayer come in many ways. They may come in the circumstances of your life or through the kind acts of those around you. As you continue to draw near to your Heavenly Father through prayer, you will recognize more readily His merciful and wise answers to your pleadings.

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MANUAL OF PRAYER. ACCOUNTABILITY. O Thou Judge of the quick and the dead, make me realize that I am responsible to thee for all my thoughts, words, and actions; and in all my duties and privileges.

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