

JANUARY 1, 2000  
*“My New Year’s Prayer”*

**F**ather God, I come to You in Jesus’ name. I ask You to use me for Your glory and honor, and to make me a source of blessing and encouragement for people who are troubled, lonely, confused, and hurting.

“Lord, I have tried many times in the past to keep some kind of spiritual journal, and I failed to have the discipline to do it. Please help me to be more disciplined and faithful in doing this. I pray that whatever I write will be anointed and approved by You.

“I know that You have always loved me and never rejected me. You have showered me with Your abundant grace and mercy, and You have spared my life from Satan and from my own self-destructiveness time and time again. I thank You for this!

“Lord, I thank You, too, for choosing me, even before I was in my mother’s womb, to one day be able to know and serve You. I pray that my life will no longer be a source of pain and hurt to others like it was in the past. I pray that, as the new creation I am today in Christ Jesus, I can continue to be a light in the midst of the spiritual darkness that is in this world. I pray also that You will keep me as the salt of this earth, and that I will be Your sweet fragrance as I live among the prisoners and guards in this place.

“Father God, please continue to use me as an instrument of hope, healing, and encouragement. I ask you, God of Israel, that Your divine forgiveness through Your Son, Jesus, be fully manifested in my life for all to see, that they may know that You are a forgiving God, full of compassion and mercy. “Lord, there is so much more I want and need to pray for and about. But this shall suffice for now. Amen!”