

Mr. Trathen

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M. 19/6

Lauderdale Park December 12. 1829.

My Dearest Love,

Whenever I have questioned the Children respecting their praying to God, at the least morning & evening, they constantly plead, 'Mother, we have no prayer, and we can't tell what to say'; to remedy this, I submit these few petitions to your approval, you can add to, or omit, as you think fit. I conceive, the greatest blessing we can possibly desire for our children is that the fear of God may be constantly before their eyes, deterring them from evil, and the love of God be shed abroad in their hearts prompting them to obey his commandments. — First, I wish to remind them, that they take care to be sincere in their attempts to pray, because prayer does not consist in the words we make use of, ~~but, in the sincere desire of our heart that~~ the petitions we offer to God may be granted, and, they will always, be heard and answered, so far as they are asked agreeable to the Divine will. —

Almighty & ever blessed God, I beseech thee to have mercy upon me, & to bless me, by bestowing upon me all those things which thou knowest to be needful for me; defend me, most gracious God, by thy mighty power, and help me by the assistance of thy Holy Spirit to do whatsoever thou hast commanded me, and carefully to shun all known sin such as, pride, vanity, idleness, self-indulgence, impatience, fretfulness, and discontent, preserve me also from stubbornness and self-will, from all lying and profaneness; turn my heart from the love of sin, to love thee O my Maker, Preserver, Redeemer, that thou mayest finally become my Saviour; grant me grace to love thy Holy Word, and may it be at all times, and under all circumstances, the rule of my life, and conduct; may gratitude for all thy Mercies be continually springing

up in my heart, I would bless thee for health & strength, for food and raiment  
for kind Parents and Friends, and for delivering me from the many  
wits which my sins have so justly deserved; pardon, O Lord, all the  
rash and angry words which I may have spoken, and all the sinful  
thoughts which I have not been careful to resist; but especially for-  
-give my forgetfulness of thee, O my God, and my want of grate-  
-tude and love to Jesus Christ, who hast given himself a ransom  
for my sins, and is even now pleading for me at the right-hand of  
God; may it please thee to grant unto me that godly sorrow for my  
sins, that shall bring forth in me fruits meet for repentance,  
and enable me to lay hold on the hope that is set before me in  
thy holy Word even the Lord Jesus Christ; incline me thankfully to  
receive instruction, may I learn from the example of my gracious  
Lord & Master to be humble, patient, meek, kind, and merciful;  
grant me grace to conquer and subdue all those wil temper  
which have so often overcome me; feeling myself a great sinner  
by nature, and by practice too, there implore thy pardon and forgive-  
-ness through my most merciful Lord and Saviour; since I know  
that my life is so short and uncertain, help me constantly to re-  
member my latter end, and grant me grace so to live, that I may not  
fear to die; being conscious that I am interested in the blood of Christ,  
and being created anew in Christ Jesus, have passed from a death in  
sin, to a life in righteousness, I may be enabled to look  
forward to a blessed immortality, and at length may be received in  
those everlasting habitations which thou hast prepared for them  
that love thee. — I beseech thee also to bless with me, my dear Parents,  
Friends, and acquaintances; bless the poor, the sick, and those who are in any  
way afflicted either in mind, body, or estate; bless the land in which I live,  
but especially all the faithful followers of Jesus Christ — Bless all this

ministering servants, grant unto them the constant aid of thy Holy Spirit  
that they may be faithful to the word delivered to their charge, and may  
be fruitful in every good work. Hasten that happy period, when all  
shall know thee from the least even to the greatest - these prayers I  
humbly offer in the name of Jesus Christ through whom alone I can  
hope for pardon and for heaven =:-

My Dear, I have written this only for your inspection, if you disapprove  
pray to send it back to me. - I desire to be grateful to my God  
that I do not feel worse, than when you was here, and I think not  
quite so impatient, and I am quite sure, if I know any thing at all  
of my own heart, it is <sup>my</sup> most sincere desire to be patient and

resigned to any affliction, privation or dispensation of the Omights  
however trying or painful - well knowing that we have not an High  
- Priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities &c  
though my iniquities testify against me, and my backslidings are  
many, yet, I acknowledge unto the Lord my manifold sins and trans-  
gressions, and would still hope in his mercy, especially when I read in the  
34 Psalm 'This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him  
out of all his troubles'. - Continue to trust in the Lord, for none ever  
trusted in Him and were confounded. - believe me to remain your  
sincerely affectionate Wife  
Ann Mather