



**SEARCHME**



**BREAKME**



**SENDME**





*“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way.”*

**Psalm 139:23-24**

Outline and quotes from *Dangerous Prayers: Because Following Jesus Was Never Meant to Be Safe* by Craig Groeschel (Zondervan, 2020) *Recommended reading!*



## **Search Me**

*“With all his heart, David wanted to please God. ...David surrendered his heart before God and prayed one of the most vulnerable, transparent, and dangerous prayers you’ll ever hear.” (p. 31)*

*“The heart is more deceitful than anything else, and incurable — who can understand it?” **Jeremiah 17:9***

*“Our heart deceives us and is desperately wicked. At its core, our heart is all about self—not Christ. ...It’s obsessed with what we want—not what God wants.” (p. 33)*

*“The Lord said: ‘These people approach me with their speeches to honor me with lip-service, yet their hearts are far from me, and human rules direct their worship of me.’” **Isaiah 29:13***

*“I realized the closer I got to Jesus, the more I’d have to face my shortcomings. My pride. My selfishness. My lust. My critical spirit.” (p. 37)*

*“Instead of simply asking God to do something for you, ask God to reveal something in you.” (p. 38)*

## **What are you hearing from Him?**

---

---

## **Reveal My Fears**

*“What we fear the most often reveals where we trust God the least. ...The things that keep me awake at night were the things that I wasn’t trusting God to handle.” (p. 40)*

*“Our fears matter. Because ultimately, our fears show how we’re relying on our own efforts and not trusting in our Savior.” (p. 42)*

*“But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is perfected in weakness.’ Therefore, I will most gladly boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may reside in me. So, I take pleasure in weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and in difficulties, for the sake of Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” **2 Corinthians 12:9-10***

*“The pathway to your greatest potential is often straight through your greatest fear... what God wants for you may be on the other side of what your fear the most.” (p. 43)*

*“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.” **2 Timothy 1:7***

*“There is no fear in love; instead, perfect love drives out fear” **1 John 4:18***

*“As God reveals your fears, he will also build your faith. You need Him. You need His presence. You need His power. You need His Spirit guiding you. You need His Word strengthening you. Faith doesn’t mean you don’t get afraid. Faith means you don’t let fear stop you.” (p. 43-44)*

**What do you fear? What are your anxious thoughts?**

**Where do you need to grow in faith?**

---

---

## **Uncover My Sins**

*“Show me if I am doing anything that offends or hurts Your heart.” (p. 45)*

*“We need God’s help to see the sin that’s difficult to see in the mirror.” (p. 50)*

*“For with his flattering opinion of himself, he does not discover and hate his iniquity. The words from his mouth are malicious and deceptive; he has stopped acting wisely and doing good.” **Psalms 36:2-3***

*“Without even knowing it, our deceptive hearts deceive us into ignoring our own sin. And the rationalizations continue.” (p. 50)*

*“A fool’s way is right in his own eyes, but whoever listens to counsel is wise.” **Proverbs 12:15***

*“I’ve learned that when I’m defensive, that’s an indication I need to pay more attention and be open to what God wants to show me. ...I’ve found*

*that the more convinced I am that I'm right about something, the more likely that I'm wrong."* (p. 52)

*"Would you ask God to show you if this is something He would have you change?"* (p. 53)

### **What are you hearing from the Lord?**

---

---

#### **Lead Me**

*"We want God to lead us, to direct us, to guide us to become what He wants us to be."* (p. 55)

*"This is where genuine, Spirit-filled, life-altering change becomes possible."* (p. 56)

*"Listen for what God says. Watch for what He shows you. ...Discovering our deepest need is a gift. It's an opportunity. It's a blessing. Because your deepest need becomes a gift when it moves you to depend on Christ."* (p. 57-58)

As we continue to face the challenges of the pandemic, hear these words:

*"I've chosen not to use the word enduring. Enduring is a passive response to something that is happening. ...I'm embracing this whole situation. With everything in me, I believe God is using it to help me know Him better and help others know Him too."* (p. 58)

#### **Where do you hear Him leading you?**

---

---

*"Are you tired of boring, safe, sterile prayers? Are you stuck in a spiritual rut? Is your faith fat? Your passion low? Are you hungry for more? And ready to obey?"*

*Then venture out into the deep waters of communication with God. Open your heart to healing from a divine God. Step into the beauty of God's forgiveness and grace. Seek his unfailing, unconditional, and unquenchable love. And have the courage to pray this dangerous prayer. But don't just pray it. Respond to what he shows you. Step through your greatest fear and into faith. Embrace your deepest need and let it drive you to depend on Christ.*

Are you ready? "Search me, Lord." (p. 59)

- Search me, God, and know my heart.
- Test me and know my concerns.
- See if there is any offensive way in me.
- Lead me in the everlasting way.



***"It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply." — A.W. Tozer***

*"To be wholly useful to God, we have to be empty of self." — Craig Groeshel*

## **BREAK ME**

### **Read Mark 14:3-9**

Mediate on the value of the perfume, a year's wages.

*"Think about that. How much do you make in a year? Now imagine, in one moment, with one single display of worship, giving that whole amount to Jesus. That is what this woman did. She broke the bottle and gave it all." (p. 77)*

How does your heart respond? Where are you on the spectrum?



The Woman (v. 3)

Those protesting (v. 4-5)

Why?

---

---

*"At that time, perfume was so rare that everyday women never thought of buying or wearing perfume. It simply wasn't feasible. It cost way too much. So, who would be willing to drop the big bucks for fragrance? Women like this one. Some theologians believe the only women who wore perfume were 'the women of the streets.' The fragrance was a form of advertising. Those who wore perfume were sending a bold and fragrant message, 'I'm available . . . for a price.'*

*So, when this woman broke open the bottle and poured out the valuable cologne, she wasn't just parting with the money she had earned. She was parting with her past, her profession, her livelihood. The perfume not only represented the work she used to do; it also represented what she could use to stir up future 'business.' When she broke the bottle, she burned her bridges. No going back. She poured out all the perfume on Jesus, symbolizing that she would give him all of her life.” (p. 78-79)*

Do these words describe you: *Released... Surrendered?*

What would it take for you to say:

Jesus, here's my life. \_\_\_\_\_

It's all yours. \_\_\_\_\_

I'm holding nothing back. \_\_\_\_\_

*“Lord, you can have it all.”* \_\_\_\_\_

### **Read Mark 14:22-26**

Luke adds *“Do this in remembrance of Me.” (Luke 22:19)* A way to remember, honor and celebrate His death and resurrection. Remembering the price Jesus paid for our forgiveness.

*“But some scholars believe, and I agree, that Jesus' instruction to “do this” included more than a simple and short act, or ritual, involving bread and wine. Some believe that Jesus' “do this” also refers to how we are to live. We don't just remember Jesus during Holy Communion at church; we remember him in how we live our lives daily. Because Jesus' body was broken, because his blood was poured out for us, we too should live daily for him, broken and poured out.” (p. 83)*

*“Jesus isn't inviting us to a life of comfort and ease, but one of surrender and sacrifice. Our highest desire shouldn't be for our will to be done, but for his will to be done. And Jesus is inviting us to die to our own lives, so we can live moment by moment, day by day—for him. To leave our cozy living rooms and safe prayers in order to know what it means to be broken for the sake of others.” **Matthew 16:24-25***

*“What if when Jesus said, “do this,” he wasn't just talking about a ritual that we do occasionally at church? What if he was also inviting us to be broken and poured out daily? What if he was inviting us to a life of humility, sacrifice, generosity, and joy? What if, instead of praying, “God watch over me, protect me, and bless me,” we invited God to do something deeper in our lives? (p. 85)*

*What if we had the courage, the audacity, the faith to pray, “God, break me”? What if we too lived broken and poured-out lives for Christ?” (p. 86)*

Will you pray, “God, do whatever it takes to free me from my love for this world. To crucify my love of comfort. God, break me.”

Write your prayer in your own words:

---

---

---

---

**God uses those who are broken and dependent on Him.** (p. 100)

*“True brokenness before God isn’t a one-time event; it’s a daily decision. Paul said, “I die daily” (1 Cor. 15:31 NKJV). What does that mean? Every day, he chose to crucify his own desires so he could live fully for God’s. True brokenness before God isn’t a one-time event; it’s a daily decision.*

*We are each called to die daily. To be broken and poured out. To become dependent on God’s Spirit. To rely on him for our comfort, our guidance, our source of power.*

*Being broken isn’t just a moment in time born out of a painful event. It’s a daily choice to die to pride. To crucify lust. To destroy selfishness. Rather than living a life of ease, it’s a choice to live a life of faith.”*

*“If you don’t want to pray this dangerous prayer, then don’t. Many people wouldn’t blame you. I sure won’t. But if you have the courage to pray it, get ready. Get ready to know God, and be known by God, in a way you’ve not experienced before.” (p. 102)*

**“Lord, break me.”**





*“What if instead of asking God to just do something for us, we prayed a dangerous, self-denying prayer of availability to our heaving Father?”*

— Craig Groeshel

***“Send me, Lord. Use me.”***

Read **Isaiah 6:1-8** How does our day parallel Isaiah’s time?

---

---

*God’s call — an invitation from God to serve Him, usually in a specific, unique way — requires surrender of your own plans and preferences and go where He tells you, when He tells you, how He tells you, to meet who He tells you to, and to do what He tells you. Complete surrender. (111)*

Ways we can respond:

1. *“Here I am, Lord, but I’m not going” — **Jonah 1:3***
2. *“Here I am, Lord, but send someone else” — Moses, **Exodus 3:11; 4:10-13***
3. *“Here I am, Lord, send me.” — **Isaiah 6:8***

*Ask the Father to examine your heart, which response is closest to how you are living today?*

---

***“Woe is me”***

*“To truly get to a point of submission and availability to God, and to be fully aware of His presence, we are wise to recognize and understand our sinfulness.” (126)*

Like Isaiah, our response starts with experiencing God’s holy presence. (**Isaiah 6:1-4**) Spend time drawing near to Him (**James 4:8**) and seeking Him with your whole heart. (**Jeremiah 29:13**). His holiness reveals our sinfulness. *“As long as we compare ourselves with other people, we can deceive ourselves that we are not that bad.” (127)*

Be specific in your confession:

---

---

*“At the depths of Isaiah’s despair, he experienced the deepness of God’s grace... Imagine the power of the moment. Isaiah has never been more aware of his guilt, his sin, his shame. And with one touch from God’s being, his sin was gone. Forgotten. Forgiven. First, unconditional grace. Then, uncontainable gratitude....*

*Grace. Changes. Everything.*

*We don’t bring anything.*

*Jesus brings everything.*

*When God asks, ‘Who will go? Whom shall I send?’ our immediate response from a forgiven and surrendered heart is the faith-filled, fully available prayer: ‘Here I am, Lord. Send me.’ ...God who has forgiven you has also called you and chosen you. Every single day, he has appointments planned for you. People to bless. Things to give. Opportunities to serve. ...You are His servant. Available. Eager. And ready to go.” (129-131)*

### ***“Who will I send? Who will go for us?”***

*“This isn’t a one-time dangerous prayer you pray and then you go on with your life. ...when you submit your life to Christ, your spirit comes to life... and your spirit is connected to God’s Spirit. From that moment on, there is a war going on within you.*

*Paul calls it a battle between your flesh and your spirit. Your old nature wants to do what’s easiest for you. Your new and spiritual nature wants to do what glorifies God.” (Galatians 5:17) (133)*

*“Daily we should feed our spirits. Because what we feed grows.*

*And what you starve dies.*

*Rather than getting what you want, give up something you may want, for something you want even more—a God-glorifying life.” (134)*

### ***“Here I am. Send me.”***

*“...Simply do one thing daily that takes faith... at least one faith-filled act. Start living aggressively, watching for opportunities to exhibit faith. ...It’s simply a matter of being willing, being open, being attuned to God, and risking more. (140-141)*

*How do you think your life might change if you prayed daily a daring, faith-filled prayer of whole-life devotion to the One who gave it all for you?” (147)*

What is one thing you can do today that will take faith, at least one faith-filled act?

---

*“Isaiah’s response was bold. Send me. Anywhere. Anytime. I will sign my name to a blank contract of availability. God, you just fill in the details.*

*Use me. My life is completely yours. May your will become my will. Your plan, my plan.*

*Notice Isaiah didn’t ask for any details. He didn’t ask God where. Or when. Or what would happen.*

*Here I am, Lord.*

*Send me.*

*Use me.” (152-153)*

What we pray for reflects what we believe about God. If most of our prayers are for “ourselves” or “what matters to us,” then the content of our prayers communicates that we believe, deep down, that God exists primarily for us.” (155)

Do a prayer audit. If God said yes to every prayer you prayed in the last seven days, how would the world be different?

---

---

*“God’s call prompts you to live beyond yourself, to not just be about your own comfort but to completely surrender to His bidding. To go. To serve. To build. To love. To fight. To pray. To give. To lead.” (112)*

**How will you respond to His call?**



Record your thoughts as you pray through the five prompts:

- **Denominee Process and Future Team** — *Seeking His future for Ohio Baptists*

---

---

---

- **Church Revitalization** — *Seeking His plan for the church*

---

---

---

- **Church Planting** — *Seeking His places for church plants*

---

---

---

- **Pastors and Leaders** — *Seeking His favor for pastors, leaders, and their families*

---

---

---

- **Awakening** — *Seeking supernatural gospel impact in Ohio and beyond*

---

---

---

As you have opportunity, please share with others who are praying.

## Prayer Resources

- Baillie, John A *Diary of Private Prayer* (Scribner, 1949)
- Batterson, Mark *The Circle Maker* (Zondervan, 2011)
- Blackaby, Henry & Norman Blackaby *Experiencing Prayer with Jesus* (Multnomah, 2006)
- Blackaby, Richard & Fisher, Rick *Developing a Powerful Praying Church* (Blackaby Ministries International, 2017)
- Branch, Jim *The Blue Book: A Devotional Guide for Every Season of Your Life* (Create Space, 2016)
- Carson, D.A. *Praying with Paul* (Baker Academic, 2014)
- DeMoss, Nancy Leigh *Brokenness, Surrender, Holiness* (Moody, 2008)
- Early, Dave *Prayer Odyssey: A Journey to Effective Prayer* (Treasure House, 2003)
- Elliff, Bill *The Line of Faith: 40 Days to Deeper Dependency* (Grace & Truth, 2016)
- Elliff, Bill *The Essential Presence: 40 Days to Increased Intimacy with God* (Grace & Truth, 2017)
- Elliff, Bill *Prayer with No Intermission: 40 Days to Unceasing Prayer* (Grace & Truth, 2018)
- Elliff, Bill *Simply Prayer: Joining God for the Rest of Your Life* (TruthINK Publications, 2020)
- Elliff, Tom *A Passion for Prayer: Experiencing Deeper Intimacy with God* (CLC, 1998)
- Foster, Richard *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home* (Harper, 1992)
- Foster, Richard and James Bryan Smith *Devotional Classics: A Renovaré Resource for Spiritual Renewal* (Harper, 2005)
- Franklin, John *And the Place Was Shaken: How to Lead a Powerful Prayer Meeting* (Broadman & Holman, 2005)
- Frizzell, Greg *How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life* (Master Design, 1999)
- Frizzell, Greg *Returning to Holiness: A Personal and Churchwide Journey to Revival* (Master Design, 2000)
- Gaines, Steve *Pray Like It Matters: Intimacy and Power Through Prayer* (Auxano Press, 2013)
- Groeschel, Craig, *Dangerous Prayers: Because Following Jesus Was Never Meant to Be Safe* (Zondervan, 2020)

- Henderson, Daniel *Fresh Encounters: Experiencing Transformation Through United Worship-Based Prayer* (NavPress, 2008)
- Henderson, Daniel *Old Paths New Power: Awakening Your Church through Prayer and the Ministry of the Word* (Moody, 2016)
- Henderson, Daniel *Transforming Prayer: How Everything Changes When You Seek God's Face* (Moody, 2011)
- Hunt, T.W. and Claude King *Growing Disciples Series – Pray in Faith* (LifeWay, 2007)
- Kendrick, Stephen and Alex *The Battle Plan for Prayer* (Broadman & Holman, 2015)
- King, Claude *Consecrate the People* (LifeWay, 2010)
- Maxim, Jim and Cathy, Daniel Henderson *21 Days of Breakthrough Prayer: The Power of Agreement* (Whitaker House, 2018)  
[strategicrenewal.com/21days](http://strategicrenewal.com/21days)
- Mahaney, C.J. *Humility: True Greatness* (Multnomah, 2005)
- McCrary, Dwayne *It Begins With Prayer: How Prayer Impacts Reaching Others, Building Community, and Serving Through the Sunday School* (LifeWay, 2019)
- Miller, Paul E. *A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World* (NavPress, 2017)
- Murray, Andrew *With Christ in the School of Prayer* (Hendricks Christian Classics, 2007)
- Owens, Ron *Manley Beasley: Man of Faith – Instrument of Revival* (CrossHouse, 2009)
- Peterson, Eugene *The Contemplative Pastor: Returning to the Art of Spiritual Direction* (Eerdmans, 1989)
- Piper, John A *Hunger for God: Desiring God Through Fasting and Prayer* (Crossway, 1997)
- Sanders, J. Oswald *Spiritual Leadership* (Moody Press, 1967; LifeWay, 1999)
- Sorge, Bob *Secrets of the Secret Place: Keys to Igniting Your Personal Time With God* (Oasis House, 2001)
- Rankin, Jerry *In the Secret Place: A Pilgrimage through the Psalms* (Broadman & Holman, 2009)
- Rankin, Jerry *Spiritual Warfare: The Battle for God's Glory* (Broadman & Holman, 2009)

Reid, Alvin *Pursuing God: A 40-Day Guide To Personal Revival* ([www.alvinreid.com](http://www.alvinreid.com), 2012)

Taylor, Jack *Prayer: Life Limitless Reach* (Broadman, 1977)

Tippit, Sammy *The Prayer Factor* (PrayerShop, 1988)

Whitney, Donald *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life: Revised and Updated* (NavPress, 2014)

Willard, Dallas *The Spirit of the Disciplines* (Harper & Row, 1988)

Witt, Lance *Replenish: Leading from a Healthy Soul* (Baker Books, 2011)

### Prayer Websites

[blog.lifeway.com/growingdisciples/prayer-boot-camp/](http://blog.lifeway.com/growingdisciples/prayer-boot-camp/) Claude King's blog, includes free download of Prayer Boot Camp resources.

[harvestprayer.com](http://harvestprayer.com) Several prayer resources and links to other prayer groups. David Butts, president. (Not SBC)

[imb.org/pray](http://imb.org/pray) International Mission Board prayer page.

[inallthingspray.net](http://inallthingspray.net) Created by members of PrayerLink, a network of state convention and SBC entity prayer leaders partnering together to call and equip Southern Baptists to a renewed life of prayer to impact a lost world

[namb.net/prayer](http://namb.net/prayer) North American Mission Board prayer page.

[onecry.com](http://onecry.com) Nationwide call to spiritual awakening, several denominations and faith groups. (Not SBC)

[blesseveryhome.com](http://blesseveryhome.com) Great website to pray for every home in your neighborhood, by name. (Not SBC)

[praync.org](http://praync.org) Robust website from Chris Schofield Director, Office of Prayer, North Carolina Baptists, several free downloads

[prayerleader.com](http://prayerleader.com) Good website for prayer team leaders. Also publish Prayer Connect magazine available for subscription fee. (Not SBC)

[scbo.org/pray](http://scbo.org/pray) State Convention of Baptists in Ohio webpage with prayer resources, several free downloads.

[strategicrenewal.com](http://strategicrenewal.com) | [64fellowship.com](http://64fellowship.com) | [prayercoaching.com](http://prayercoaching.com) Daniel Henderson – several resources for creating a prayer culture in the church, many free, including videos, etc. (Not SBC)

[wmu.com](http://wmu.com) Women's Missionary Union – several resources available for praying for missions and missionaries.



***PrayOhio!*** initiative is a **Cooperative Program** ministry  
of the **State Convention of Baptists in Ohio**

For more information and prayer ministry resources contact the  
Bible Teaching/Leadership Resource Group

*PrayOhio!* Initiative

Steve Hopkins [SteveHopkins@scbo.org](mailto:SteveHopkins@scbo.org) (614) 601-6280  
[scbo.org/pray](http://scbo.org/pray)

***Amplifying leaders to accelerate Gospel impact!***

