13 PRAYERS FOR

by Suzie Eller

#PRAYERONE

Dear Jesus, I say I want to have faith without borders—until you take me to the brink and I must step off. I'm much happier in my comfort zone. I like my life to be tidy rather than messy or uncertain. I want to see the finish line, not just run toward it.

Those feelings are real, but so are *you*.

So I put my toes in the water. I stand with open hands and an open heart. When you whisper, "Come with me," I place my feet in the indentations of your feet and I follow.

Take me wherever you desire. Lead me wherever you want me to go. Do in me whatever you long to do.

#PRAYERTWO

Jesus, I sense that gentle nudge to take a leap of faith. To be honest, I've run from it. You see in me what I don't always see, and I battle to trust in that area.

I want to say no. Actually, I want to shout no. Thank you that I can be honest about that.

Instead I whisper yes where no wants to take root. Following you isn't about a final outcome. It's not measured in the same way that the world measures. Walking with you step by step, trusting you, that's the real prize.

That's where you are doing your greatest work in me. It's where I learn to listen to you, and it's where spiritual maturity springs up inside.

My *yes* may seem timid to others, but it's rising up from a place of faith and trust in you. My *yes* may not be louder than my fears yet, but I know that you hear it and that it brings you joy.

#PRAYERTHREE

Jesus, you *chose* me.

I'm not sure how much I have to offer, but I give it all to you. Take the gifts you placed inside of me and use them for your purposes. If that's to love children, let me show them that they are valuable to you. If that's fighting injustice, equip my heart and mind and lead the way. If that's teaching, pour in wisdom. If that's encouraging, show me weary souls who just need to know that they matter. Whatever I have, whatever I am, it's all yours.

Thank you for choosing me.

#PRAYERFOUR

Lord, I want *more*.

Not more things. Not more favor. I simply want more of *you*. I long to know you just as you know me. I desire that the Word change me, but also challenge me.

Forgive me for the times I've sought favor in things, or people, or relationships when I have so much already. You pour out new mercies over my life every day. You willingly walked to the cross that I might be free.

The more I know you, the more I become like you. The more I can tell others who you are. What an incredible gift.

#PRAYERFIVE

Jesus, your heart is not about collecting things, but people. May that be my heart as well. Help me see those around me who need you, especially those within reach.

Show me how to open my home and my heart to those who are different from me, but beautifully created by you. If there are barriers I've erected that keep people out, I invite you to break them down. Crush them! Move them out of the way.

I don't need to have a perfect home or a perfect life or perfect timing to love others. I just need you. Teach me to love others as graciously as you have loved me.

#PRAYERSIX

Dear Jesus, I don't like that person and I don't like the way they hurt my heart. When you ask me to love them, it seems impossible.

As I study how you loved others, I see that there was always a mix of people standing in the crowd. Those who adored you. Those who mocked you. Those who were intrigued by what you had to say. You loved them well, Jesus. You spoke truth, but from a place of love. You forgave. You believed in people when they struggled to believe in themselves. You saw beneath the exterior to the need beneath.

Lord, I cannot possibly love difficult people in my own strength, but with your help I can speak truth from a place of love. I can forgive. I can pray. I can believe that you see their lives as valuable.

Today I slip into your presence. Fill the wounded and oh-so-human places in my heart and show me how to love when it's not easy.

#PRAYERSEVEN

Father, you see the seeds of discontentment buried where no one else can see. I've looked at that person's house or that person's family or that person's success, and I've found my own wanting.

I've grumbled and complained inwardly, all the while missing the miracles all around me.

Discontentment has the power to take me down a road you never intended. I'm putting on the brakes, Lord. I'm taking the closest exit with intentional gratitude.

I have a roof over my head and people who care about me. I have food on my table. I can walk and breathe, and there's beautiful color splashed all around me in the form of your creation. But more than any of these, I'm a child of God. I'm yours. I'm grafted into the family tree.

Lord, I choose to live a life of thank-you.

#PRAYEREIGHT

Savior, the storm is brewing and the wind is whipping me around. I didn't ask for this trial or that circumstance, but I know you are with me. Thank you that you are my Rock. Thank you for anchoring me in such a way that when the winds die down, I'll still be standing.

Not just standing, but stronger. Wiser.

My joy will run deeper because storms do not have the power to knock me down, but to drive me to hold more closely to you.

#PRAYERNINE

Lord, I often ask you to use my strengths. That's where I feel comfortable. Today I invite you to use my weaknesses. You are aware of the areas where I am a work in progress. You are strong in those weak places, because that's where I must trust you the most.

Thank you that you don't allow my weaknesses to keep me from following wherever you lead, or doing whatever you ask. Instead you grow me as I take that step of faith. You teach me when there are things I don't yet understand. You pick me up when I fall flat on my face and encourage me to try one more time.

What a beautiful partnership, almost like a waltz, Jesus. As you take the lead, I'll follow.

#PRAYERTEN

Heavenly Father, there's untapped power in the deep waters of prayer, and I've been away for far too long. I don't know why I allow so many things to get in the way of my time with you. I don't understand exactly why I come to the end of myself before I reach for you.

So I'm walking into your presence.

I'm setting my anxious thoughts and to-do list to the side. You are the reason I call myself a follower, so I follow you into the deep where I can hear your voice, where I can talk with you, and where I walk out overflowing with your power over my life.

#PRAYERELEVEN

Dear Jesus, everything I own is yours. My home. My money. My car. My plans. My job. Take these things and use them for your glory. If I've held them too close or invested too much in them, loosen my grip so that they hold less power over me as you desire them to. If they keep me from investing in your purposes, may you show me what to do.

I also give you my loved ones, my relationships, my hopes and dreams.

Plunk yourself in the midst of these things that are my heart. Help me to hold them with open hands and allow you to be Lord, rather than cling too tightly.

I give every good gift back to you.

#PRAYERTWELVE

Jesus, when you said "go," you included me in that invitation. Whether that is across the street or across the world, I am excited to follow.

I'm also scared. I'm afraid I'm not big enough, or the words I speak won't be sufficient. I'm afraid of leaving—people, security, comfort.

I realize that "going" isn't about our final destination, but who we walk with along the way. I'm not alone as I go. I have you and the counsel of the Holy Spirit, and I'm grateful.

Whatever that first step is—whether teeny tiny or big—I take it with joy, knowing that you meet me when I do.

#PRAYERTHIRTEEN

Jesus, I've been studying the early disciples. They had no idea where you were taking them or how your words would impact them. You continually taught and lived by example before them. They made mistakes. They grew through them. They learned to trust your character as their own was honed and shaped by your love.

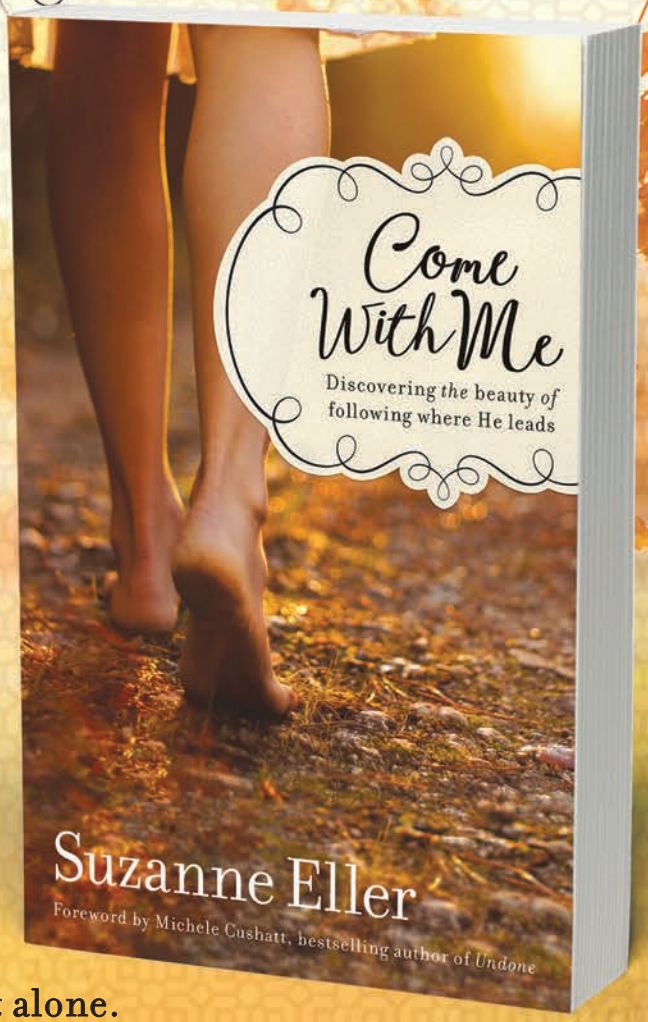
Let me live as a thirteenth disciple, listening for your voice as I read your Word. Taking your example, your instructions and your love into my everyday world. Help me reach others for you. I want to make a difference, Jesus, not in my own power but in yours.

Light up my life. Ignite my faith. Change me forever.

New From Proverbs 31 Author

Suzanne Eller!

Where you are going is not as important as Who you go with.



In her warm, conversational way, bestselling author Suzanne Eller shows how, when you take a step away from the uncertainty, the to-do list, the worries and excuses, you take a step toward the One who promises to delight and surprise, who will transform who you are, how you live, and how you impact the world.

So come. Walk with Jesus. Listen to His words. Step into the harder places of faith—but not alone. Learn who you are, but more so *who He is to you*.

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