

PRAYER TRANSFORMS

Search me

Prayer Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Amen. (*Psalm 139:23-24*)

“Anyway” by Kent Keith People are unreasonable, illogical, self-centered... love them anyway. If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives... do good anyway. If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies... be successful anyway. The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow... do good anyway. Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable... be honest and frank anyway. People love underdogs but follow only top dogs... follow some underdogs anyway. What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight... build anyway. People really need help but may attack you if you try to help... help people anyway. Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth... give the world the best you have anyway. (*displayed by Mother Teresa at Missionaries of Charity*)

Help me

Prayer: Lord, we thank you for your church, founded upon your Word, that challenges us to do more than sing and pray, but go out and work as though the very answer to our prayers depended on us and not upon you. Help us to realize that humanity was created to shine like the stars and live on through all eternity. Keep us, we pray, in perfect peace. Help us to walk together, pray together, sing together, and live together until that day when all God's children -- Black, White, Red, Brown and Yellow -- will rejoice in one common band of humanity in the reign of our Lord and of our God, we pray. Amen. (*Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*)

Mold me

Prayer: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring love. Where there is offence, let me bring pardon. Where there is discord, let me bring union. Where there is error, let me bring truth. Where there is doubt, let me bring faith. Where there is despair, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, let me bring your light. Where there is sadness, let me bring joy. O Master, let me not seek as much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that one receives, it is in self-forgetting that one finds, it is in pardoning that one is pardoned, it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life. Amen. (*St. Francis of Assisi*)

Send me

Prayer: Loving God, send us to: Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (*Book of Common Worship*)