

This prayer string of pearls is meant to be a tangible support for prayer and meditation, a constant reminder of the basic belief of Christians. As you feel the touch of the pearls you concentrate your prayers around these basics.

The Blue Pearl

The spring of purity and holiness. God our Father. "You are worthy, our Lord and God. To receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." Revelation 4:11

"A feeling of awe in the presence of God is common to religious experience. We reach out to that which is different from ourselves, to complete purity and goodness, not simply to greater power. What we are recognising is the holiness of God. Our sense of awe is often accompanied by an awareness of guilt and unworthiness in the presence of divine holiness."

"We are called to reflect the holiness of God. God is holy, awesome in His majesty and in the beauty of His character. He is all that true love could desire. His children are called to a related holiness, dedicated to the service of the holy God and called to be like Him in character."

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me. Psalms 51: 10-12

The Four Pearls of Meditation and Reflection

Perfect in holiness. Meditate on the words from Revelation 4:8, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."

Reveal Yourself to me, God, in Your holiness and majesty!

Perfect in wisdom. In silence let the words from Romans 11:33, be rooted in you: "0, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgements, and his paths beyond tracing out!"

God, let me grow in wisdom that comes from You!

Perfect in power. Meditate on the words from Isaiah 40:25-26, 29. "To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal? Says the Holy One. Lift your eyes and look to the heavens; who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them, each by name. Because of this great power and mighty strength not one of them is missing ... He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."

God, be my strength!

Perfect in love. Receive the words from 1 John 4:16 and Romans 5:8. "And so we know and rely on the love of God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him." "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Thank You, God, for Your love for me!

Red Pearl

Jesus Christ, God's eternal Son our Saviour.

Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you." 1 Peter 1:3-4

The loving obedience of Jesus was the means through which God reconciled the world to Himself. We are part of that world. Salvation is to enter by faith into the story of Jesus, so that, associated with and transformed by His death and risen life, we may share the fruits of His self-giving. Because Jesus is our Saviour, the story of Jesus is our salvation story.

May Your grace transform me day by day, that the wonder of salvation may stay fresh and real for me. May my life reflect Your presence and Your resurrection power.

The Four Pearls of Meditation and Reflection

Repentance. Bring before God all that creates a distance between yourself and Him, bring all that needs to be forgiven. Be still in His presence, just pray: *Our Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me!*

Grace. Receive and accept the words from 2 Corinthians 12:9 as spoken to you: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."



Faith. While trusting Him, surrender yourself to Him and submit your whole being into His hands — He who was, who is and who is to come. In silence make room for a growing faith in Him. *Christ, come be with me and walk the road of my life ahead of me, next to me, that I in faith can live in Your grace and peace!*

Assurance. Rest in the knowledge that you are precious, loved and accepted.

Yellow Pearl

The Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of Life.

"To the Christian, the Holy Spirit is both a tender, intimate presence and a mystery beyond full understanding. He brings God near to us and directs our attention to Jesus."

"The Holy Spirit is always contemporary. He is God acting for us today, giving us confidence in



the Christian mission and enabling us to look forward with hope to the ultimate fulfilment of God's purposes ... the Holy Spirit, giver of life, guides and vitalizes our mission to live the story, to tell the story and to help others to make it their own.

Send your Holy Spirit over me and fill me with His fire and power. Make my life and service a living and trustworthy testimony to You.

The Four Pearls of Meditation and Reflection

God's gracious provision. "Peace be with you! As the Father sent me, I am sending you" And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:21-22

Holy Spirit, come and rest on me!

The sanctifying Spirit at work. Meditate on the word from Romans 8:26. "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express."

Holy Spirit, come alive in me!

A radical life-change. Meditate what the words from Galatians 5:25 mean for your life: "Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit."

Holy Spirit, come alive in me!

The Fruit of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23

Holy Spirit, may Your fruits be seen in my life. Lord and giver, equip me for Your service!

The pearl of intercession. 'Others — the World. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3.16

While interceding for others, those close to you, those you hardly know, those placed on your heart to pray for, keep in mind the love of God to all.

Conclusion

Conclude this time of prayer and reflection by holding the whole string of pearls in your hand as a sign of surrender to God, resting in Him who is, who knows and who has all power. Take all the time you need for this!