

ENTER IN

*A Guided Prayer to
Draw Near to God*

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By Laura Woodworth

“Draw near to God and He
will draw near to you.”
James 4:8 NKJV

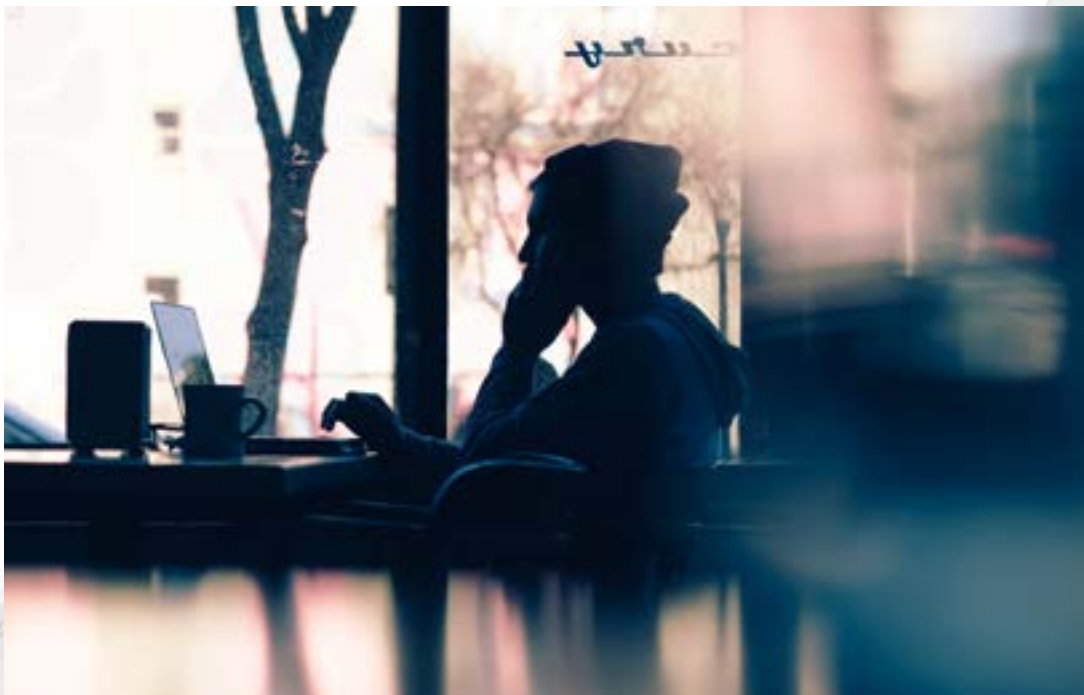
Everything changes when God steps into a room.

Life looks differently when God is involved. Those things that were troubling you come into perspective when He comes near.

It's true that God is everywhere. And He is all-knowing. But there's a principle of drawing near to Him that brings Him near to you.

It's the difference between knowing a good friend is there for you—and picking up the phone to hear the sound of their voice.

Or better yet, to spend time together. Not a zoom call, not a google meet up. An in-person moment to laugh and cry and share life with each other.



Have you ever known that closeness with God?

Have you ever experienced the presence of God in such a way that it feels like He's right beside you?

Maybe your church or pastor never mentioned it or maybe you were hesitant to take that first step to draw close to Him, so that He might come close to you.

*In your face
close.*

Wrap His arms around you close..

Lift off all the cares and concerns of your life, look deep inside your broken heart and heal you close.



God desires to have a deep and meaningful relationship with you.

The Bible tells us that, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1 NIV).

Though He is "ever-present," He will not push himself upon you. He will not invade your space unless invited.

So how do we invite God into our lives?



How do we draw near so He will come close?

It begins with cultivating an attitude of worship for who He is as God, with a truth-based confidence that He wants to be involved in your life. He wants to be invited over to your house for coffee. He longs to sit across from you at the kitchen table and share your joys and your sorrows.

Can I guide you to that place?



This simple guided prayer can help you experience God's presence in a deeper way. You can do this right now, wherever you're at—in your home, in your car—find a quiet place where you can linger a moment.

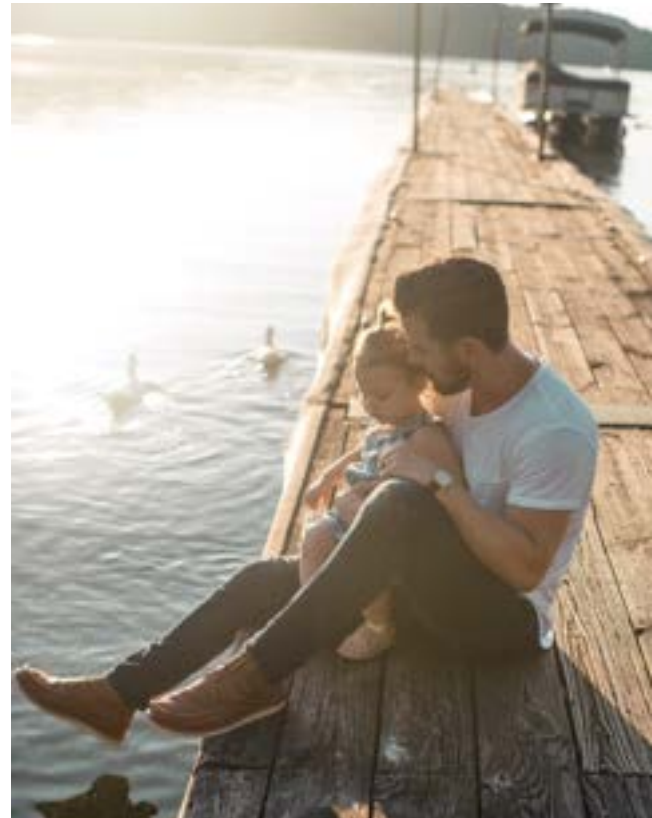
Let's begin by lifting your hands.

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and
bless the Lord." Psalm 134:2 NKJV

Your hands, lifted in the air to the Lord, is a symbol of worship.
It's a sign of surrender and trust.

It's like a small child running to her daddy or
mommy with arms lifted high to be lifted up.
Picked up, swirled around, snuggled and
loved—safe and secure in trusted hands.

**Do you think
God would
respond any
differently?**



Would the heavenly Father turn away or ignore you?
You are His child and He is your heavenly Father.

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us,
that we should be called children of God! And that is
what we are!" 1 John 3:1 NIV

Try it right now.



Lift your hands to the Lord and say out loud:

Heavenly Father, I draw near to you in worship. I praise you, my Lord and my King. There is none like You in all the earth and I'm so thankful to be called Your child.

Now pause.

“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him...”
Psalm 37:7 NIV

Stay in this place a moment.

Do you sense Him drawing near? Wait for it... Do you feel the uplift in your spirit? Respond to God's embrace and let Him come close.

**What else do you want
to say to Him?**

“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” 1 Peter 5:7 NLT

What needs or burdens do you want to share with your heavenly Father?

What’s causing anxiety in your heart? What’s troubling you and causing worry? **Talk to Him.** Tell God what’s weighing on your heart. Like a trusted friend, you can be real with Him. And then—



Ask.

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.”
Philippians 4:6 NLT

Now that you’ve spilled your soul before Him or shared your concerns and frustrations, ask for His help.

Ask for God’s divine intervention or wisdom or provision—whatever you need. Go ahead. He’s listening and, remember—He truly cares.

BELIEVE AND THANK HIM

“Don’t be afraid; just believe.” Mark 5:36 NIV

Believe in the Lord.

Believe in His response to you. Believe in His love and care for you. Take a moment and express your faith to Him. You can even simply say,

“God, I believe! I will not worry about my situation. I trust You and I thank you for working in my life and in this situation.”



... and now thank Him.

"We thank you, O God! We give thanks because you are near." Psalm 75:1 NLT

Praise Him. Thank Him for drawing near. Thank Him for coming close to you. You can pray something simple like this:

"God, thank you for coming close to me! Thank you for helping me know what it feels like to be loved by You."

Memorize this moment.

This is what it feels like to be close to God. This is the kind of relationship He longs to have with you. Come back to this place. Continue to draw near to God, every day.

**You are His child.
This is for you.**

"And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love." Romans 8:38 NLT

ENTER IN.



*Thank you for entering
in with me.*



I pray you will draw near to God on a daily basis. He longs to be close to you!

For more resources, please visit laurawoodworth.com.

Connect with me on social media.



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