

**A Prayer of Submission**  
*from A Collection of Forms of Prayer/*  
*Writings by John Wesley*

*Wesley's first published work was this collection of prayers for each day of the week, morning and evening, gathered and edited from a variety of sources. It was printed in 1733, before his mission trip to Georgia. This is the prayer for Thursday evening.*

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, my Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, **I give up myself** entirely. May I no longer serve myself, but you, all the days of my life.

**I give you my understanding.** May it be my only care to know you, your ways, your works, and your will. Let all things else be as refuse to me compared the excellence of this knowledge, and let me silence all those old voices against whatsoever you teach me, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

**I give you my will.** May I have no will of my own. Whatsoever you will, may I will, and that only. May I will your glory in all things, as you do, and make that my end in everything. May I ever say with the Psalmist, "*Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you.*" May I delight to do your will, O

God, and rejoice to accept it. Whatever threatens me, let me say, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him." And whatever happens to me let me give thanks, since it is your will concerning me.

**I give you my affections.** Dispose of them all. Be my love, my fear, my joy; and may nothing have any share in them except that which is for you and for your sake. What you love, may I love; what you hate, may I hate; and that in such measures as you are pleased to prescribe for me.

**I give you my body.** May I glorify you with it, and preserve it holy, fit for you, O God, to dwell in. May I neither indulge it, nor use too much rigor toward it; but keep it, as far as it is in my control, healthy, vigorous, and active, and fit to do you all manner of service that you shall call for.

**I give you all my worldly goods.** May I prize them and use them only for you. May I faithfully restore to you, through the poor, all you have entrusted me with, above the necessities of life; and be content to part with them too, whenever you, my Lord, shall require them from my hands.

**I give you my credit and reputation.** May I never value it, but only in respect of you; nor endeavor to maintain it, but as it may do service and advance your honor in the world.

**I give you myself and my all.** Let me look upon myself to be nothing, and to have nothing, apart from you. Be the sole disposer and governor of myself and my all; be my portion and my all.

O my God and my all, when hereafter I shall be tempted to break this solemn engagement, when I shall be pressed to conform to the world and to the company and customs that surround me, may my answer be: “**I am not my own.** I am not for myself, not for the world, but for my God. I will give unto God the things that are God’s. God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”