



An African Prayer Book

By Desmond Tutu

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Prayer, our conversation with God, needs no set formulas or flowery phrases. It often needs no words at all. But for most believers, the words of others can be a wonderful aid to devotion, especially when these words come from faithful fellow pilgrims.

An African Prayer Book is just such an aid, for in this collection all the spiritual riches of the vast and varied continent of Africa are bravely set forth. Here we overhear the simple prayer of the penniless Bushman, the words of some of the greatest Church fathers (Augustine and Athanasius), petitioning and jubilant voices from South Africa's struggle for freedom, and even prayers from the Africa diasporas of North America and the Caribbean. Here are Jesus's own encounters with Africa, which provided him refuge at the beginning of his life (from the murderous King Herod) and aid at its end (in the person of Simon of Cyrene, who helped Jesus carry his cross). From thunderous multi-invocation litanies to quiet meditations, here are prayers every heart can speak with strength and confidence.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Desmond Tutu, Nobel laureate and archbishop of Capetown, South Africa, draws on the breadth and depth of African spirituality to assemble this little treasury of prayer and devotion. He has arranged material from throughout the African continent and the African diaspora into a traditional pattern of adoration, contrition, thanksgiving, and supplication. In his introduction, he affirms our interdependence in the words of an African proverb--"A person is a person through other persons" --and he builds on this theme throughout the collection, as he has throughout his life. In the concluding section, "Daily Life," he reminds us that "we are always in the presence of God. Prayer is acknowledging that we are in that presence." In this sense, the whole book is a prayer, one more addition to the already considerable contribution Archbishop Tutu has made to the literature and the practice of spirituality. *Steve Schroeder*

From the Publisher

The great Archbishop of Capetown, South Africa, shares with us the simple but profound secrets of his extraordinary spiritual strength by unveiling his very own book of prayer. Prayer, our conversation with God, needs no set formulas or flowery phrases. It often needs no words at all. But for most believers, the words of others can be a wonderful aid to devotion, especially when these words come front faithful fellow pilgrims. *The African Prayer Book* is just such an aid, for in this collection all the spiritual riches of the vast and varied continent of Africa are bravely set forth. Here we may delight in Solomon's splendid encounter with the Queen of Sheba, overhear the simple prayer of a penniless Bushman, and glory in the sensuous sonorities of the mysterious liturgies of the Egyptian Copts. Here are Jesus' own encounters with Africa, which provided him refuge at the beginning of his life (from the murderous King Herod) and aid at its end (in the person of Simon of Cyrene, who helped Jesus carry his cross). Here are the prayers of some of the greatest among the mothers and fathers of the Church -- Monica, Augustine, Clement of Alexandria, Cyprian of Carthage -- as well as the prayers from the African diasporas of North America and the Caribbean. From thunderous multi-invocation litanies to quiet meditations, here are prayers that every heart can speak with strength and confidence. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who is for millions the very soul of Africa, is our guide on this unique spiritual journey. His introduction is destined to become a classic, his characteristic energy and optimism light our way, and the words of his favorite prayers (many composed by the Archbishop himself) will stay with us forever.

From the Inside Flap

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unique spiritual journey. His introduction is destined to become a classic, his characteristic energy and optimism light our way, and the words of his favorite prayers (many composed by the Archbishop himself) will stay with us forever.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Michael Cooke:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be revise about what going on or info even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era that is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know which you should start with. This An African Prayer Book is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Damon Smith:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book might be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the guide untitled An African Prayer Book can be very good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

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A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them household or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a reserve. The book An African Prayer Book it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book possesses high quality.

Brenda Anderson:

An African Prayer Book can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to set every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing An African Prayer Book nevertheless doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource

information that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can certainly drawn you into new stage of crucial pondering.

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