

The Starting Place: God's Grace and Love

Introduction: This is the prayer I pray each day. It started with a 30-day prayer covenant with Don Reyberg in 1967 (II Chronicles 15:12). It changed my life and ministry. It has been changing my life and ministry for over forty years. **It is changing my life now.**

“Thank you dear Father, Lord Jesus, Holy Spirit for Your grace and Your cross that made me one of Your dearly loved children.”

- I. It is a Trinitarian prayer.
 - A. Jesus taught His disciples to pray this way, “**Our Father**” who art in heaven...
Matthew 6:18
 - B. Jesus told His disciples shortly before His death, “Hitherto you have asked nothing **in My name**, ask and you will receive that your joy may be full.”
John 16:24
 - C. “We are to pray **in the Spirit** at all times.” Ephesians 6:18
- II. Thank you dear Father, Lord Jesus, Holy Spirit for Your **grace** that made me one of your dearly loved children. “It’s all grace, folks.” – Dr. Gary Sweeten
 - A. John 1:16-17 And from His fullness...
 - B. Ephesians 2:8-9 By grace you have been saved...
 - C. II Corinthians 12:9-10 My grace is sufficient for you...
- III. Thank you dear Father...for Your **cross** that made me one of your dearly loved children.
 - A. II Corinthians 5:14-15
 - B. Romans 8:38-39
 - C. I John 4:10
- IV. Thank you dear Father...that made me **one of Your dearly loved children.**
 - A. “The beloved of God.” Colossians 3:12
 - B. “One of Your dearly loved children.” Ephesians 5:1
 - C. Why do I find it so difficult to believe God’s love is for me?
 1. Damaged receiving mechanism – Miss California
 2. Ten cow woman
 3. “The Love of God”
 4. Have you seen a bird recently?

Conclusion: **How often** and **how deeply** do you know that you are God’s dearly loved child? Let’s come to know God’s “Crazy Love” together.