

How to write a prayer

Anything you want to ask or say to God is a prayer. So you could just think of what you want to ask or say, and write it down. Finish it with 'Amen', and that is a prayer.

But the rest of this page will show you how to write a special type of prayer, called a **collect**.

A collect is said by the person leading a church service. It 'collects up' the prayers of everyone. There is a different collect for every week of the year. And we can also write our own.

How to write a collect

Step 1 - Address it to God

Start off the prayer by addressing it to God, and saying something about what God is like or what God has done.

You might start by saying *God, you are...* or *Dear God, you do...* or *Almighty God, you have done...*

Step 2 - ask for something

Next, we ask God to do something. Perhaps it might be to change us to make us care more, or perhaps it might be about something that's going on in school or the world.

You might continue so *God, please...*

Step 3 - say why you are asking for this

Continue by giving a reason for why you are asking, or what you want to happen.

so that...

Step 4 - ending the prayer

End the prayer, perhaps using a traditional ending, and finish with 'Amen'.

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, Amen

Two examples

The first example is one that I wrote.

Here is a prayer that a girl called Nora wrote:

*Dear God
I don't feel
alone since I
found out about
you.
Nora*

*From Children's
Letters to God
by Hample and
Marshall*