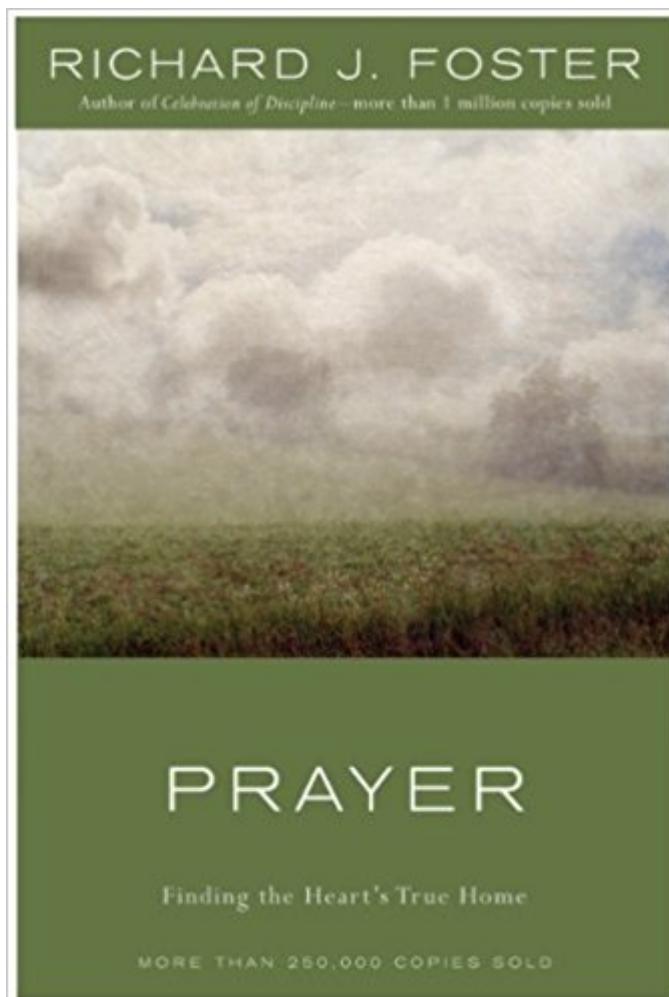


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# Prayer: Finding The Heart's True Home



## Synopsis

Best-selling author Richard J. Foster offers a warm, compelling, and sensitive primer on prayer, helping us to understand, experience, and practice it in its many forms—from the simple prayer of beginning again to unceasing prayer. He clarifies the prayer process, answers common misconceptions, and shows the way into prayers of contemplation, healing, blessing, forgiveness, and rest. Coming to prayer is like coming home, Foster says. "Nothing feels more right, more like what we are created to be and to do. Yet at the same time we are confronted with great mysteries. Who hasn't struggled with the puzzle of unanswered prayer? Who hasn't wondered how a finite person can commune with the infinite Creator of the universe? Who hasn't questioned whether prayer isn't merely psychological manipulation after all? We do our best, of course, to answer these knotty questions but when all is said and done, there is a sense in which these mysteries remain unanswered and unanswerable . . . At such times we must learn to become comfortable with the mystery." Foster shows how prayer can move us inward into personal transformation, upward toward intimacy with God, and outward to minister to others. He leads us beyond questions to a deeper understanding and practice of prayer, bringing us closer to God, to ourselves, and to our community.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There are hundreds of books on prayer, and much of the advice they contain is likely to be the same. So what distinguishes these books? Call it a kind of wisdom, a sense that here's someone who knows something of God's heart. A good example can be found in this fine book by the Quaker

writer and teacher Richard Foster. The author of the bestselling *Celebration of Discipline* explores various aspects of prayer, which he defines in one place as "the human response to the perpetual outpouring of love by which God lays siege to every soul." Beginning with the simplest forms of prayer--what he calls "ordinary people bringing ... ordinary concerns to a loving and compassionate Father"--he then explores the deeper places where prayer becomes not simply petition but a way of life. He writes of prayer of adoration and rest, sacramental prayer, meditation, and contemplation, and in the final section of the book moves outward into ministry, where prayer meets the needs of the world. In each chapter Foster defines, describes, and gives helpful examples. Above all he writes with grace--in both the artistic and spiritual senses. --Doug Thorpe

Foster, Quaker theologian and best-selling author, provides an excellent and comprehensive survey of 21 forms of Christian prayer. He groups the sections around three movements (inward, upward, and outward) which address three human needs (transformation, intimacy, and ministry). Foster presents the best thinking of various church traditions to help the reader feel drawn to prayer and to a restored and deeper relationship with oneself, God, and others. This is one of the best, most comprehensive, yet accessible introductions to prayer that this reviewer has seen. Highly recommended for all libraries. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This was a very interesting book on prayer by Richard Foster. Again he wrote the book in short chapters which gives you time to read and stop to meditate on each chapter... as each chapter is so full.. I would highly recommend this book....it shows so many different ways of prayer that I had never thought of before.

This is a great book, especially if you are looking for new and different ways to incorporate prayer into your life. There is a great deal of variety here, and this book is both invitation and practical manual. If you are struggling with the theology of prayer, however, this is not the book for you. If you are wrestling with the invitation to intercessory prayer, but not quite understanding why anyone would try to convince God to act in one way over against another (since most Christians assume God is already working towards our best interests), this book doesn't really answer your question. Having said that -- as a book of invitation, encouragement and practical application, this book is great!

Biblical truth with practical application mixed with overarching encouragement is perhaps the best

way to encounter spiritual truth. Richard Foster presents prayer in a way sufficient for beginners and satisfying for seasoned believers. Take your time, then read it a second time; you will sense change as you try one or more of his suggestions. ,

Richard Foster has captured the heart of any believer who longs for a closer relationship with God. In "Prayer, Finding the Heart's True Home," one finds a timeless treasures of ways to enter to the presence of God, how to communicate and how to listen to His voice. I read this book 3 times but it's not the last. Beautiful work.

This is a book that, at first appearance, seems to be aimed at the brain. It does not take long, though, before you realize that it is speaking to something which includes the brain but goes way beyond the brain to the heart. It is a book that I believe I will read many times. It really helps me to meditate and open myself more to God. Through this book I am learning to shut my mouth and listen and to understand at a deeper level what I believe that I have known but was never capable of articulating it as Richard Foster has so wonderfully done--that prayer is not just liturgy--not just a formal thing that people do--but about being in an intimate relationship with God. Hooray again for Richard Foster!

Our church home group has been reading and discussing this book for the past few weeks and many of us have found real value inside. If you are looking to delve into the different types of Christian prayer and their relevance to your life, read this book.

This book has changed my prayer life. For those of you that are wanting "more" out of your prayer life, this is definitely a good read or gift! Richard Foster has a way with words.

I loved this book. It was written well and explained the types of prayers thoroughly. I especially liked the stories that went with each type of prayer. I read it for a class and reading this book was the highlight of the class for everyone I talked to. I sell most of my textbooks after the class ends, but this is one book that I am going to keep and read again.

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