

A Little Girl's Prayer

Greg Anderson, in his book *Living Life on Purpose*, recounts a story about a man whose wife had left him.

He was completely depressed. He had lost faith in himself, in other people, in God – and he found no joy in living.

One rainy morning, this man went to a small neighborhood restaurant for breakfast. Although several people were at the diner, no one was speaking to anyone else. This miserable man hunched over the counter, stirring his coffee with a spoon.

In one of the small booths along the window was a young mother with a little girl. They had just been served their food when the little girl broke the sad silence by almost shouting, “Momma, why don’t we say our prayers here?”

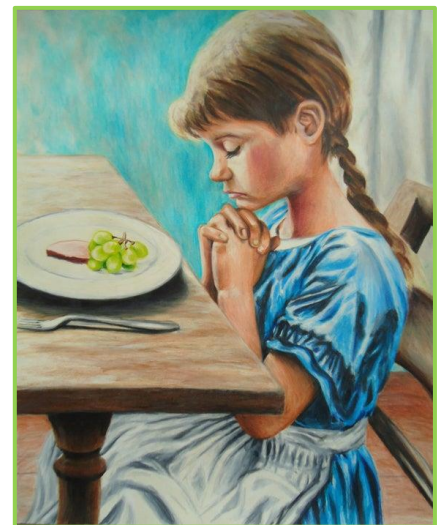
The waitress who had just served their breakfast turned around and said, “Sure, honey, we can pray here. Will you say the prayer for us?”

And the waitress turned and looked at the rest of the people in the restaurant and said, “Bow your heads.”

Surprisingly, one by one, the heads went down. The little girl then bowed her head, folded her hands, and said, “God is great, God is good, and we thank Him for our food. Amen.”

Her prayer changed the entire atmosphere. People began to talk with one another. The waitress said, “We should do that every morning.”

“All of a sudden,” said the man seated at the counter, “my whole frame of mind started to improve. From that little girl’s example, I started to thank God for all that I did have and stopped majoring in all that I didn’t have. I started to be grateful.”



We all understand and appreciate the importance of gratitude, and how it can radically change relationships.

One of the first things we were taught, and parents teach their children, is to express gratitude. Someone gives them some candy, and we say, “Now what do you say?” And the child learns from an early age the answer, *Thank you*.

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As adults, we know that we appreciate being thanked. Yet, when it comes to giving thanks to our heavenly Father, we often miss the mark.

How about thanking Him this morning for at least one blessing in your life?

Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:20 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter