

# A Chaplain's Daily Prayer

Gracious Lord,

As I begin this day of ministering to the needs of others, may I see with your eyes, and love with your compassion. I humbly acknowledge that I am not up to the task before me. I need the filling and empowering of your Spirit if I am to genuinely love and care for those I meet. Teach me to quiet my heart, to spend quality time with you before I rush into this day; that I may minister to others out of a cup that *runneth over*, not from an empty well.

Grant that I may listen and hear the true heart-felt needs of my patients and their families. May I not be so wrapped up in myself, and my own issues, that I fail to meet people where they are emotionally and spiritually. Give me the courage to come from my heart and not just my head. May my words be few, and may they be words of truth, empathy, and hope spoken in love. I pray that each person to whom I minister will be brought at least one step closer to you because of my being with them.

I believe you are the Great Shepherd. As I point others to you, I thank you that you long to lead and shepherd them; whether beside the still waters, or through the valley of the shadow of death. Draw to the fold those who do not know you. Teach them to hear your gentle voice. I pray that I, along with them, may come to know your unfailing love, faithfulness, and presence.

I pray that you will sovereignly lead me to the patients, family and staff you want me to visit today. May I do no more, nor no less, than you ask of me, and may my attitudes reflect you.

I thank you for the gift of life. May I never take it for granted. Where I fail you, forgive me; for I too stand in need of your mercy and grace. Make me an instrument of your grace, and when others see me, may the light of your countenance be upon my face.

I pray these things in the name of our blessed Lord and Savior,

Amen.