

## New Beginnings Covenant Prayer

O most holy God, we cry to you. Like the prodigal son, we have each gone our own way. We have fallen away from you by our own sinfulness and are by nature children of death and sin. But in your abundant and infinite grace, you have promised mercy to us in Christ if we will turn to you with all our hearts. Therefore, in response to the good news of grace that you have given to us, we come now, bow our hearts before you, and surrender our lives to your love and mercy. Because you require, as the condition of our covenant relationship with you, that we should put away all idols and reject all destructive influences in our lives, we here, from the bottom of our hearts, renounce them all.

We firmly covenant with you not to allow ourselves to become slaves to sin, but to use all of the means of grace that you have given to us to flee from and put to death all of those forces that try to corrupt and do damage to your life in us. We humbly affirm before your glorious majesty that it is the firm resolution of our hearts to forsake all that is dear to us in this world, rather than to turn away from your Kingdom and your purposes. We will avoid all temptations, whether the lure of prosperity or the fear of adversity, lest they should withdraw our hearts from you. And since you have, in your boundless mercy, offered graciously to be our God through Christ, we call on heaven and earth to record this day, that we do here solemnly choose you to be our Lord and our God. We do here take you, the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as our portion and do give up ourselves, body and soul, as your servants, promising and vowing to serve you each day in holiness and righteousness.

Blessed Christ, we come to you hungry, wretched, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy to wash your feet, much less be your covenant partners. But since, in your unmatched love, you have called us, we do here with all our power accept you and take you to be the head and Lord of our lives. We will love, honor, and obey you before all others, until we die. We renounce our own worthiness and claim your righteousness as our own. We renounce our wisdom and ask you to be our only guide. We renounce our own will and take your will as our law. And since you have told us that we must share in your sufferings, we do here covenant with you to accept our life, as you will it. With you and by your grace we will meet every hardship and challenge with you, knowing that neither life nor death can separate us from you.

Now, Almighty God, Searcher of Hearts, you know that we make this covenant with you this day without any known reservation. We plead with you that if you see any wicked way in us you will reveal it and help us to put it right.

O Eternal Jehovah, the Lord God Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become our Covenant-Friend, and we, through your infinite grace, have become your Covenant-Servants. And this covenant that we have made on earth, let it be ratified and remembered in heaven.

Amen.