# The Prayer That Changes Everything®

# STORMIE Omartian



EUGENE, OREGON

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# Because He Is My Creator



et's start at the beginning, shall we?

I mean the very beginning. Back when God created heaven and earth.

On page 1 of Genesis.

God started the creation process without any preexisting things. He began with nothing. With the presence of His Holy Spirit and the entrance of His Word, creation happened. He brought order, light, life, and beauty out of chaos and darkness. Every time He said, "Let there be..." it happened.

God doesn't need anything in order to create something great. Aren't you glad about that? I know I am. Even in our lives, God doesn't need much to work with. He can create something from nothing. He has certainly done that in my life.

### **Everything God Created Is Good**

Not only can God create something from nothing, but everything He creates is good. Seven times in the story of creation, God said that what He had made was good (Genesis 1:4,10,12,17,21,25,31). If everything God makes is good, doesn't that mean you are too? Of course, sin came in and perverted things, but God created you for good, and He is redeeming your life to that end. He is all about redemption. And He

never makes an error. Even if something happens to ruin or pervert what He has made, He provides us a way back to complete restoration.

Let me tell you some words God never utters.

### Ten Things God Never Says

- 1. "Oops!"
- 2. "What have I done?"
- 3. "How did I let that happen?"
- 4. "I made a mistake."
- 5. "It was an accident."
- 6. "I don't know what to do."
- 7. "I'm afraid of what will happen now."
- 8. "I can do better than this."
- 9. "What do you think I should do?"
- 10. "Why didn't *I* think of that?"

The reason it is important to know these things that God never says is because it means He never says them about *you* either. Everything God created is good. He says so Himself. That includes you and me.

If all God created is good, then anything that has been spoiled must be our doing. Whenever we see anything of God's creation that doesn't seem to be good, we can be sure that man has done something to ruin it. Sin spoils everything. We spoil the good things in our lives when we transgress our relationship with Him by not living His way. And when we don't give God the reverence that is due Him through our own worship and praise, we are not living His way. We are not fulfilling the original intention of all God created us to be and do.

### God Created You in His Image

Having a close resemblance to your heavenly Father is an amazing thought. "God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27). That means you have your Father's eyes. And you have your Father's heart.

You also are a brother or sister to His Son, Jesus, and you are destined to become like Him. That means you are part of a really big family. "For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren" (Romans 8:29).

What are some of the characteristics of God you would like to inherit? What about His strength? His goodness? His wisdom? His patience? His faithfulness? His peace? God wants to impart all of those things and more to us as we are ready to receive them. God wants to share Himself with us. He wants to train us up to be like Him. That doesn't mean we are actually going to be God someday. It means that He wants to show us how to run the family business down here, and we need to have His qualities and abilities to do it.

God wants us to remember Who it is Who gave us life and Who it is we are supposed to resemble. "Is he not your Father, your Creator, who made you and formed you?" (Deuteronomy 32:6 NIV). God wants you to be thankful for the way He made you. I'm not saying don't get your teeth fixed or try to improve yourself in any way. Fix what you can, but also be grateful for who He made you to be.

### God Loves All He Created

God loves His creation just as a mother loves the child that is growing in her womb—sight unseen. She is already completely in love with that tiny person before he or she is ever born.

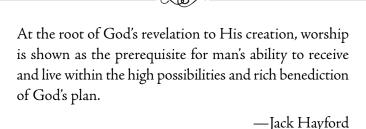
Your Creator loved you before you were born too. You were wanted. You were not an accident. You didn't evolve from a monkey. You weren't accidentally born to someone who could not raise you, and so you were later adopted. God gave you life, and you are a part of His plan. He created you and you are valued, precious, and priceless to Him. He loves you because He made you and He knows who He made you to be.

You are unique. There is no one like you. There never was and never will be. And God has a purpose for you that is unique as well. He has

big plans for your life. Remember, God never makes mistakes. Therefore you are not one.

### We Were Made for His Glory

The ultimate reason God created you is to be with Him. To glorify Him. He says, "Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him" (Isaiah 43:7). And we were made to worship Him. "This people I have formed for Myself; they shall declare My praise" (Isaiah 43:21). Praising God is the main purpose for which we were created. We were created for worship. We just have to get it straight in our heart exactly where our worship is to be directed.



### God Loves His Creation and So Should We

All too often we don't take time to step back from the world to appreciate God's creation. To thank Him for it. To praise Him as our Creator. When we do, it gives us a whole new perspective. It takes away darkness, futility, and foolishness from our minds. It helps us see the world through different eyes.

His!

That means we need to praise God for other people. But that's not always our first thought, is it? It's so much easier to praise God for His sunset, His ocean beaches, His trees and flowers. But His people?

Waking up every day and thanking Him for other people? They may not be our first thought, but they are His.

All that God created is beyond our full comprehension, but this is especially true when it comes to people. Every person in the world is entirely unique, down to their fingerprints and DNA, and we need to respond to God's greatness as our Creator by praising Him for all those whom He has created. This is not worshiping the creature rather than the Creator (Romans 1:24-25). This is worshiping the Creator and appreciating His creatures.

When we praise God for other people, it helps us to gain His heart for them. He loves them. All of them. We definitely don't do that in the natural. Our love for other people has to be ignited in the Spirit. God has to impart that ability to us. And He does it when we praise Him for the people He has created.

Think of that the next time you are at an amusement park, standing in line for an hour with a thousand other people, trying to get your children on a ride. Or when you are at a sporting event, concert, or meeting, and it's wall-to-wall bodies and some of them don't smell as fragrant as others. Or you are at the grocery store just before a snowstorm or after an earthquake and all the batteries, bottles of water, bread, and milk are gone. Think of it when you are hopelessly stuck in a traffic jam that shows no sign of moving because of the number of cars and trucks in front of you. These are the times to especially thank God for all the people He created, and that they each have a unique calling and purpose that is important to Him.

We also need to appreciate everything else in God's creation. We can sometimes become so wrapped up in praising man's creations that we ignore God's completely. If there were no other reason for our praise, the fact that God is the Creator of all would be enough. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). All of God's creation is an expression of His love for us.

Every time I look at an ocean sunset with explosive shades of red, pink, yellow, lavender, and orange dancing in lavish combinations on the water as far as the eye can see, I feel God's love and find that praising Him comes automatically. But God wants us to see the beauty of His creation at *all* times and in *all* places. No matter where we look. Even in the depravity of the world around us, His creation can still be seen and appreciated. His love can still be found there.

When you are going through a difficult time, don't let yourself become so overwhelmed by your concerns and blinded by your situation that you can't see anything else but that. Praise God as your Creator and thank Him for His creation. It's important to our well-being to acknowledge that everything under heaven is God's (Job 41:11) and to praise Him for it. "Then at last they will think of God their Creator" and have respect for Him (Isaiah 17:7 TLB). When we don't think of God as our Creator and don't give Him the proper respect, there are ramifications for that. "For this is a people without understanding; so their Maker has no compassion on them, and their Creator shows them no favor" (Isaiah 27:11 NIV).

This is serious. It's not a good idea to lose God's compassion and favor. God loves His creation. He surely doesn't love all that has happened to it, but He knows the way He created it to be. He sees its potential, He knows its purpose. He wants you to see that too.

The same is true for you. You are His creation and He loves you. He may not love all that has happened to you or all that you have done, but He loves you and He knows the way He created you to be. He sees your potential, and He knows your purpose. And what He can create in your life now is without limits.

The hidden power of praising God as your Creator releases Him to create new life in you.

### WORSHIP IS -

...celebrating Him as our Creator and thanking Him for all that He has created.



## I Give God My Praise

Lord, I worship You as the Creator of heaven and earth. All things were made by You and everything You created is good. I praise You for all of Your beautiful creation. You placed the earth on its foundation so that it can never be moved (Psalm 104:5). Your right hand stretched out the heavens (Isaiah 48:13). Thank You that You have blessed us with light and dark, sun and rain, food and water, land and sea, trees and flowers, days and seasons. "The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours; the world and all its fullness, You have founded them" (Psalm 89:11).

"When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet" (Psalm 8:3-6 NIV). I know that "both men and women come from God their Creator" (1 Corinthians 11:12 TLB). "How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures" (Psalm 104:24 NIV).

O Lord, thank You that You created me and gave me life. "You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb" (Psalm 139:13). I praise You, "for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well" (Psalm 139:14). I praise You for every breath I take and thank You that I was created for good things. Help me to be renewed in the image of You, my Creator (Colossians 3:10 NIV). I know You made me to be so much more than I am now and that You will help me become all You created me to be.

I praise You for the people You have created, each one unique and valuable and carrying in their spiritual DNA a purpose that is distinctive and priceless as well. I am grateful for the potential for good that You have placed within each one. Help me to value others as Your creation and see them the way You do. Thank You, Jesus, that You are "the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation" (Colossians 1:15).

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created" (Revelation 4:11). I worship You as my Creator and I praise You for all that You have created.

### God Gave Me His Word

Christ himself is the Creator who made everything in heaven and earth, the things we can see and the things we can't; the spirit world with its kings and kingdoms, its rulers and authorities; all were made by Christ for his own use and glory.

Colossians 1:16 TLB

By You I have been upheld from birth; You are He who took me out of my mother's womb. My praise shall be continually of You. I have become as a wonder to many, but You are my strong refuge. Let my mouth be filled with Your praise and with Your glory all the day.

PSALM 71:6-8

Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

1 Peter 4:19

Woe to the man who fights with his Creator. Does the pot argue with its maker? Does the clay dispute with him who forms it, saying, "Stop, you're doing it wrong!" or the pot exclaim, "How clumsy can you be?"

ISAIAH 45:9 TLB

Since they show no regard for the works of the LORD and what his hands have done, he will tear them down and never build them up again.

PSALM 28:5 NIV



# Giving It Some Further Thought

1. Write out a prayer of praise to God, worshiping Him as your Creator and thanking Him for His creation. Take a moment to experience God's creation right where you are. What do you recognize in the world around you of God's creation for which you are especially grateful? What of God's creation reveals His love for you? Write out praise to God for those specific things.

2. Read Psalm 104:1-24 in your Bible. Write out a prayer of praise for the things listed there that God created.

3. Read Psalm 28:5 in your Bible. What happens to people who do not show any regard for what God has done?

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4. Read Romans 1:24-25 in your Bible. Why did God give these people over to their own lusts? What should you remember to do?

5. Read Genesis 1:27-31 in your Bible. Who did God create and what did He tell them to do? How did He feel about His creation?