

A Prayer of Surrender-Finances

Dear LORD, I feel crushed under the weight of my bills & my desire to live the life for which I always dreamed. I don't understand why You seem to bless some people so much financially, while I constantly feel afraid of how I am going to manage paying my next bill. I don't understand. It's hard to feel so unstable & I feel like others just don't understand the unrest it brings those who do live this way. I am trying not to live in fear, but fear creeps in sometimes all the same. I am trying not to live in discontentment & bitterness, but at times, I find myself wishing so strongly for what I just can't afford. Please forgive me for my attitude in this. I know it is only natural for me to feel the unrest & discomfort of unstable income, but at the same time, I recognize that my hope needs to be more firmly placed in You. Help me to trust You as my sufficiency in this. Teach me dependency on You. Teach me contentment. Give me wisdom in areas I can cut back on, with a refreshed perspective of being contented with what I have versus pining after what I see others so easily taking for granted. Give me peace. Help me find more joy in the small, lasting things in my life. Shift my focus to You & not on what I may be lacking. Give me wisdom on how to use my money in a way that honors You, with an attitude that seeks Your glory more than temporal comforts & unfulfilling material blessings. You are enough. You ARE. Help me to lean on You, to trust Your guiding with how I use my money, to honor You with my choices & my attitude, & to lean on You as my enough no matter what my bank account balance says. In all things, You are sufficient. My abundance is only ever really found in You, so let me never lose sight of that. Thank You for Your patience with my jealous &/or wearied heart. Help me cling to You as my Enough in & through it all.

In Jesus' name, *Amen.*

A Note from the Author:

America may be a rich nation, but that doesn't mean everyone living in it is rich. It can be so easy to see the tv commercials, settings in television shows/movies, or even the world around us when we are struggling financially & just wonder why that's not you.

Contentment can be a hard thing to master. But it begins with an understanding that true joy does not come with a fuller bank account, but with a surrendered, fulfilled INSIDE. The richness of true joy cannot be bought. The fullness that enduring love that God offers you every day cannot be purchased or bargained for. Even people with wealth can find themselves living in depravity—in their heart... feeling empty & alone, with the weight of the world on their shoulders to MAINTAIN it all... as if their worth depends on it. It doesn't. Your worth doesn't depend on being financially stable &/or wealthy. Your worth is found in HIM alone. Wealth cannot bring fulfillment... it's a dream you will find yourself always reaching for & never grabbing hold of. Learn to pray prayers of surrender through your longings, fears, &/or discontentment around money, repenting of any sinful heart attitudes, & seeking Him, asking for Him to be the fulfilling of that empty longing &/or fear that just won't seem to go away. God is sufficient! So, CLING to Him in that Truth!

~Michelle Hyde

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