Prelude to Prayer

God's timing is always perfect. God's never early, never late, but always on time. Our timing isn't God's timing. For us, God's timing often feels like a long, desperate delay.

God's perfect timing does two things: It grows our faith as we are forced to wait and trust in God and it makes certain that He, and He alone, gets the glory and praise for pulling us through. "My times are in Your hands ..." Psalm 31:15. At the right time, God will provide your need. At the right time, God will deliver you. At the right time, God will rescue you.

At the RIGHT time. His time!

Rev. Bill Young, Hereford Methodist

Psalms 31:14-16

**14**But I trust in you, Lord;  
    I say, “You are my God.”  
**15**My times are in your hands;  
    deliver me from the hands of my enemies,  
    from those who pursue me.  
**16**Let your face shine on your servant;  
    save me in your unfailing love.

* Dear Father, help me to always remember that “You are my God”. Don’t let me stray from your ways and help me bring others along with me on Your path. Give me the strength to say no to the areas that I need to stay away from, even when others are begging me to go with them. Forgive me when I go, even though I know it is wrong. I am weak and sometimes it’s hard to do the right thing.
* Lord, You tell me that there is a time for every season. Help me to understand the season that I am in. Sometimes I can’t see the forest for the trees. I need your guidance as I travel those wooded paths of insecurity, hurt, fear and pain. Shine brightly so that I can make my way into the open fields. Give me wisdom to see that there is a new day coming. A day that will be brighter and I will no longer be surrounded by darkness. A day that we will look back and praise You for bringing us through to the other side.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
    and lean not on your own understanding;  
**6**in all your ways submit to him,  
    and he will make your paths straight.

* Dear Lord, I want to trust you with all my heart. I try so many times to turn my problems over to you, only to take them back and fret over them all over again. Help me to give them to you completely and totally. Forgive me for thinking that I know better. My knowledge pales beside the immensity of Yours. I especially need help with …
* Father, help make my paths straight. Please put spiritual blinders on me when I am near temptation. Make those things that draw me to them simply vanish from my sight. If that isn’t possible, then please make it no longer desirable to me. I can’t do it by myself. I need Your help.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

**3**There is a time for everything,  
    and a season for every activity under the heavens:

**2**    a time to be born and a time to die,  
    a time to plant and a time to uproot,

* Dear Lord, thank for making a time for everything. Thank you for Victor gracing us with his presence. He is such a blessing. I also want to thank you for the other new babies that will bless us in the future. I am looking forward to helping more of our children to come to love and know You. Help us be ever mindful of those little ones that are watching everything that we do so we can be a good influence on them and those around us.
* Father, we also ask that you be with all those in the South who have just dealt with the cold weather that they were not prepared for. So many have lost their lives and so many more are dealing with broken pipes and collapsed roofs. Please help provide the help that they need so much. We thank you for all those that have gone out of their way to help others during this time. “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ Matt 25:40
* Lord, thank you for Your many blessings day in and day out. Forgive us for everything we do wrong and show us how to walk faithfully in Your Word.

We ask all of this in Jesus’ name, Amen.