



# A Prayer to Help You Put Jesus First

BY GRETCHEN SAFFLES

God of abundant life,  
Before anything was, you were.  
Before stars sprinkled the heavens,  
You existed joyfully, perfectly, endlessly,  
As One—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You spoke  
And the universe came to be,  
A marvelous masterpiece  
Created from absolutely nothing  
By the power of your spoken word.

Throughout redemptive history  
Your words sustained your people,  
Sharpened their vision,  
Guided them, warned them,  
Gave them hope.

At the perfect time,  
The Son of God—the Word—put on flesh,  
Embodied in sinews and skin,  
Bound by time and human limitations,  
To die for and redeem us, your people!

Each day, we come to your Word  
As beggars with broken hearts  
In need of mending,  
As empty jars of clay  
In need of filling.

Speak to our weary hearts,  
Pierce our pride,  
Prune back our idols,  
Greed, and self-preservation  
With your grace.

Your Word breathes life  
Into our spiritual lungs.  
Your commands direct our steps,  
Convict our hearts,  
Encourage our souls.

Help us put the Word before the world,  
First and foremost in our minds,  
Our hearts, and our days  
Forever and always,  
Amen.



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