

INTRODUCTION

As African Americans, we have reason to be proud of our culture and heritage. Not only is our culture rich in tradition and history, but the people who came before us lived lives that were rich in a faith born out of perseverance under great difficulty. Previous generations passed a legacy to us of a people whose God listens to their prayers, and we'll want to pass it on to our children, our friends, and our neighbors.

Through the crucible of affliction, depth and substance are forged. *Soul Cry—Powerful Prayers from the Spiritual Heritage of African Americans* is a collection of powerful prayers of African Americans past and present that will kindle a desire in you to touch the heart of God. This prayerful wisdom of generations will touch your heart, move your spirit, and inspire your own communication with God.

This amazing collection also includes a topical section of contemporary prayers for your daily needs. You will find yourself adding your own "Amen" with each turn of the page.

COURAGE FOR WHAT IS RIGHT

*One isn't necessarily born with courage,
but one is born with potential. Without courage,
we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency.
We can't be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest.*

MAYA ANGELOU

HE WHO DWELLS IN THE SHELTER OF THE MOST HIGH WILL ABIDE
IN THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY. I WILL SAY TO THE LORD,
"MY REFUGE AND MY FORTRESS, MY GOD, IN WHOM I TRUST!"

PSALM 91:1-2 NASB

You are the great God of all the earth and the heavens.

We are so insignificant.

In us there are many defects.

But the power is yours to make and to do what we cannot do.

You know all about us.

For coming down to earth you were despised

and mocked, and brutally treated

because of the same defects in the men of those days.

For those men you prayed,

Soul Cry

because they did not understand what they were doing.

You came only for what was right.

Give us the courage to struggle in the same way for what is right.

O Lord, help us who roam about.

Help us who have been placed in Africa and

have no dwelling place of our own.

Give us a dwelling place. O God, all power is yours

in heaven and earth. Amen.

CHIEF HOSEA KUTAKO, A *Prayer from Africa*



A THANKFUL HEART

God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today.

Have you used one to say thank you?

WILLIAM A. WARD

NOT THAT I SPEAK IN REGARD TO NEED, FOR I HAVE
LEARNED IN WHATEVER STATE I AM, TO BE CONTENT.

PHILIPPIANS 4:11 NKJV