

*I asked for health, that I might do great things.
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things. . .
I asked for riches, that I might be happy.
I was given poverty, that I might be wise. . .
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men.
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God. . .
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things. . .
I got nothing that I asked for—
but everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am, among all men, most richly blessed!*

- **BE HONEST WITH YOUR FEELINGS, PROBLEMS, AND NEEDS:** Even though God already knows everything you need and everything you feel, He still wants you to come to Him, and He wants you to do it openly and honestly. There is nothing wrong with expressing your true emotions in prayer. In fact it's appropriate because it deepens our relationship with God. He always meets us right where we are.
- **TALK TO GOD ABOUT THE LITTLE THINGS THAT CONCERN YOU:** I've often heard people say, "I only talk to God about the important stuff. I don't want to bother Him with the little things." I'm amused by that. Can you think of anything in your life that isn't little compared to God? Yet He says that He knows when the sparrow falls and even the number of hairs on our heads (Matt. 10:29-30). I wonder how often we miss the best God has for us because we try to work out all the little things for ourselves. Don't miss out on what God has for you by not sharing everything with Him.