

Ice Cream Prayers  
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Generally, we think of the acronym ASAP as standing for "As Soon As Possible." Maybe if we substitute the words, "Always Say A Prayer", we'll begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days we all encounter.

There's work to do, deadlines to meet, you've got no time to spare, but as you hurry and scurry, ASAP: Always Say a Prayer. In the midst of family chaos, quality time is rare. Do your best; let God do the rest, ASAP: Always Say a Prayer. It may seem like your worries are more than you can bear. Slow down and take a breather, ASAP: Always Say a Prayer. God knows how stressful life is; and wants to ease our cares. He'll respond to our needs, large or small – even our desire for ice cream!

A six-year-old was given permission to say grace at a restaurant. He prayed: "God is great and God is good, Let us thank Him for the food, and God I would thank You even more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert. And liberty and justice for all! Amen!"

Along with the laughter from customers nearby, a woman at the next table growled loudly: "That's what's wrong with this country. Kids today don't even know how to pray. The very idea of asking God for ice cream! Why, I never."

Hearing this, the boy burst into tears and asked his mother: "Did I do it wrong? I'm sorry. Is God mad at me?" The little boy's mother pulled him over into her lap. She hugged him tightly and assured him that he had done a terrific job with his prayer and God was certainly not mad at him.

An elderly gentleman walked over to the table. He winked at the little boy and he said: "I know God really well. We visit every day and I happen to know that God loved your prayer. It may have been the best one He has heard all day." "Really?" the little boy asked. "Cross my heart," said the man. Then he leaned over and whispered into the little boy's ear. Pointing at the woman at the next table who had made the remark that started the whole thing, he said: "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, the mom ordered ice cream at the end of the meal. The boy stared at his for a moment and then did something that no one in the restaurant that day would ever forget. He picked up his sundae and without a word walked over and placed it in front of the woman at the next table. With a big smile he said to her: "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes and my soul is good already!" People applauded and somewhere in heaven Jesus was smiling.