

Sample Christian Preambles and Family Blessings

A Christian preamble to your will or a family blessing letter is a way for you to leave a final message of your Christian faith for your family. Your message could also be read at your funeral or memorial service.

Below are five sample Christian messages. You may use one of these or write your own.

I express my thanks to God for the gift of life and all His blessings. I express my thanks to God for the gift of hope through Jesus Christ. I express my thanks to God for the gift of faith through the Holy Spirit. I express my thanks to God for the gift of love and nurture through the church where I have shared faith and fellowship.

As an expression of this thankfulness and in recognition that all of my earthly possessions were gifts from God, given to me in trust, I wish to return a portion of what I have to Him. I hope that I have been a good and wise steward and that the ministries of Jesus Christ will be strengthened and extended through my stewardship.

To those I love deeply...

My life on earth has been enriched because you were in it. I consider you a gift from our Lord and I love you beyond what words convey!

I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. Rest assured that I am living with Him eternally in heaven and I look forward to our reunion there. I urge you to remain faithful to Christ and to lean on the Holy Spirit to guide you as you fulfill the purpose God has planned for you.

May you always remember that everything you have is a trust from God. I pray you will be a wise steward of His blessings, managing your gifts and honoring Him generously with your love, treasures and talents. "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms," 1 Peter 4:10.



From the Heart

My dear loved ones, I lived in grace and I died in grace. There is no more beautiful sound than the word "grace." It comes from God and perfectly characterizes the work of his Son, Jesus Christ. He gave His life so that I could be saved by grace.

I count my spouse and my family as gifts of God's grace and I love them dearly. All my blessings in life were further evidence of God's grace.

You may accomplish great things in life, but don't ever trust in them. Grace alone saves. Please learn all you can about it. In your life let it be obvious that you are God's child and saved by grace alone.

May the purpose of your life be to share the message of God's grace in Christ Jesus in every way that you can.

I have waited so long to be wrapped in my loving Savior's arms.

I have lived life in eager patience to claim His promise to me. I am finally and happily peaceful and wait to see you again.

I have been blessed during my life. God always took care of me. I knew He was there to hold on to and was sure that he would never abandon me.

He also instilled in me a knowledge and understanding that whatever I accumulated during my life was never really mine. I was just the caretaker, so it is only right for me to return a portion to Him of what He so graciously allowed me to use during my life.

I pray that you will learn to love and trust in God as I have. There is no greater gift I could ever give you. I love you very much. No tears, only joy, for I am finally home!

In the name of the Triune God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

First, I want my loved ones to know that I place full confidence and trust in my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who promised, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in Me shall never die," John 11:25-26.

Second, knowing that the wages of sin is death, I believe that Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, suffered and died for the forgiveness of all my sins, which I neither deserve nor merit, but receive as a free gift of God, Who is rich in grace and mercy.

Third, I leave to all of my loved ones the words of our Savior, found in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." I leave those who survive me the comfort of knowing that I have died in this faith and now have joined my Lord in eternal glory.

Fourth, I praise God for giving me a loving, caring, Christian helpmate in my wife/husband. She/He has been a blessing to me and a wonderful mother/father to our children. Knowing that we both share our faith in Jesus as our Savior, we will praise the Lord forever in Heaven.

Fifth, I pray that the Lord would guard and protect my children. You are very special to me and I thank the Lord for you. Through your baptism you have been received into God's family and I urge you to remain faithful to Christ until you are called home to be with the Lord. I love you and I look forward to eternity with you in heaven.

Sixth, I pray that the Lord would shower His blessings upon my grandchildren. May the Holy Spirit guide you along the narrow path of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. I urge you to respect your parents and honor them as your parents have honored me.

Seventh, I recognize that all of my earthly possessions are a gift from God. Therefore, I have made provisions in my will to continue my Christian stewardship after I have gone to heaven to be with the Lord. I trust that what I offer as a gift, will be blessed many times over by the Lord in building His kingdom.

Eighth, my heirs will receive, through me, gifts from God. May you always remember that everything you have is a trust from God. Be good and wise stewards of His blessings, managing wisely and returning to Him a generous portion for the work in His kingdom.



Lutheran Foundation Canada
REFLECTING GOD'S GRACE

Christian Preamble To Your Will

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8a).

With these words, Jesus calls us to bear witness to the salvation made possible through His death and resurrection. We have a final opportunity to serve as His witnesses by including a Christian Preamble in our will.

When planning a will, we can sometimes grow so preoccupied with the distribution of our material blessings that we may fail to share our true wealth: the Good News of forgiveness of sin and eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

A Christian Preamble is a way to begin your will with a simple, personal statement of faith. It is the last opportunity to proclaim your love of the Lord to family and friends.

A Christian Preamble is:

- A source of comfort to mourning family and friends as they are reassured their loved one died in faith, sure of God's promise of eternal life.
- A powerful message of love and encouragement, urging others to trust in Jesus Christ and strengthen their own faith.
- A public record of Christian love since a will is filed in probate court and must be copied to all beneficiaries as part of the estate administration.

You can write your own Christian Preamble, perhaps including favorite Bible verses and prayers for loved ones, mentioning them by name and encouraging them to grow in faith. You can also consider adding one of these sample Christian Preambles to your Will or just use them as a guide in writing your own.

Preamble 1

First, realizing the uncertainty of this life I place full confidence and trust in my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who promised: "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26).

Second, knowing that the wages of sin is death, I believe that Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, suffered and died for the forgiveness of all my sins, which I neither deserve nor merit, but receive as a free gift of God, who is rich in grace and mercy.

Third, I urge my heirs not to set their hopes on uncertain riches, but to take hold of the life which is life indeed through faith in Jesus Christ.



Preamble 2

First, I commit myself to God's care, secure in His love for me and trusting in the salvation purchased for me through Christ's suffering, death and resurrection. I leave those who survive me the comfort of knowing that I have died in this faith and have now joined my Lord in eternal glory.

Second, I commend my loved ones to the protecting arm of God, knowing that He will continue to provide for them despite my absence; and I encourage them to place their faith and trust in Him alone.

Preamble 3

First, I want my loved ones to know that I place full confidence and trust in my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who promised: "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26).

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