A Prayer for a College Woman (1956)
William Lloyd Ames

O God, whose Son was born of a woman.
Look upon me with loving kindness and plentitude of mercy.
Help me to adore Thee in spirit and in truth.
And to learn how Thou hast ever brought beauty and radiance and joy into our world
Through the life and ministry of womanhood.
Especially commended unto Thy care
Is the womanhood on this college campus.
Help me as a college woman to be filled with eagerness to learn
The disciplines of mind, heart, and soul.
Help me in conduct and in character to reflect the best tradition of the Christian heritage.
In decisions, make me thoughtful and exact;
In temptations, keep me strong and pure;
In conflicts, make me just and wise;
In habits, filled with ministry of human kindness and concern for all Thy children;
In the arts and sciences, give me skill to enrich our common fund of learning,
And to crown it with loveliness and dignity that shall give it highest worth.
So shall my life be a center of order, a mirror of beauty, and a ministry of comfort.

Reprinted from: Conversations With God: Two Centuries of Prayers by African Americans