I cried with all my heart; answer me, O Lord!
I will observe Your statutes.
I cried to You; save me
And I shall keep Your testimonies.
I rise before dawn and cry for help;
I wait for Your words.
My eyes anticipate the night watches,
That I may meditate on Your word.
Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness;
Revive me, O Lord, according to Your ordinances.
Those who follow after wickedness draw near;
They are far from Your law.
You are near, O Lord,
And all Your commandments are truth.
Of old I have known from Your testimonies
That You have founded them forever.

God’s Word motivates us to exhaustive prayer.

1. The Qoph is the back of the head and demonstrates our need to follow the Lord through our life’s journey.
2. “Rise before” (v.147), “anticipate” (v.148), and “of old” (v.152) come from the קדמ q-d-m root meaning front, east, forward, aforetime. The modern Israeli political party Kadima (forward!) supplies our proper-name association for this strophe’s theme.
3. A fervent effectual prayer ministry is here defined as “with all my heart” (ψ 119:145). These are the prayers that only love for the Lord can motivate (Deut. 4:29; 6:5; 10:12; 11:13; 13:3; 26:16; 30:2,6,10).
4. The Lord's salvation by grace motivates greater works of thankful devotion (ψ 119:146 cp. Eph. 2:10; Tit. 3:4-8).
5. A fervent effectual prayer ministry may require an early morning wakeup (ψ 119:147 cf. Ps. 5:3; 88:13; Mk. 1:35).
6. A fervent effectual prayer ministry may require late-night Bible studies (ψ 119:148 cf. v.62; See 1).
7. When God hears our prayers and takes action He is being faithful to His own character and His own promises (ψ 119:149 cf. Ps. 51:1; 69:16; 109:21; Ezek. 36:22-23).
8. Nearness of conflict (ψ 119:150) sparks nearness of fellowship with the Lord (ψ 119:151 cf. Deut. 4:7; Ps. 46:1; 145:18; Phil. 4:5-7).
9. Previous prayerful preoccupation with precepts, principles, & promises is prudent & practical preparation for present predicaments and problems (ψ 119:152), precisely as prescribed in Proverbs (Prov. 8:1-11).

Let God have your first awaking thoughts; lift up your hearts to Him reverently and thankfully for the rest enjoyed the night before and cast yourself upon Him for the day which follows. Familiarize yourself so consistently to this that your conscience may check you when common thoughts shall first intrude. Think of the mercy of a night’s rest and of how many that have spent that night in hell; how many in prison; how many in cold, hard lodgings; how many suffering from agonizing pains and sickness, weary of their beds and of their lives. Think of how many souls were that night called from their bodies terrifyingly to appear before God and think how quickly days and nights are rolling on! How speedily your last night and day will come! Observe that which is lacking in the preparedness of your soul for such a time and seek it without delay.

Richard Baxter