

Below is the prayer that Francis Drake wrote and delivered to his crew in 1577, before their departure from Plymouth, England on the voyage of circumnavigation that would bring them to the shores of Marin in June of 1579.

## **Drake's Prayer To His Crew (1577)**

**D**isturb us, Lord, when  
We are too pleased with ourselves,  
When our dreams have come true  
Because we dreamed too little,  
When we arrived safely  
Because we sailed too close to the shore.

**D**isturb us, Lord, when  
with the abundance of things we possess  
We have lost our thirst  
For the waters of life;  
Having fallen in love with life,  
We have ceased to dream of eternity  
And in our efforts to build a new earth,  
We have allowed our vision  
Of the new Heaven to dim.

**D**isturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,  
To venture on wilder seas  
Where storms will show Your mastery;  
Where losing sight of land,  
We shall find the stars.

**W**e ask you to push back  
The horizons of our hopes;  
And to push back the future  
In strength, courage, hope, and love.  
This we ask in the name of our Captain,  
Who is Jesus Christ.

