

Stay Connected with Jesus, the Amen of God

Pastor Jeff Alexander + Pray the Jesus Way + March 18, 2018



When Jesus teaches us to pray, He not only gives us the word of God to speak, but also the word of God to hear.

Jesus sets the pattern.

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. *Luke 11:1a*

Jesus receives the request.

When He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” *Luke 11:1b*

Jesus gives the prayer.

He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father...’” *Luke 11:2*

What challenges do you have in staying connected with God in prayer?

What’s the connection between your prayer and your work?

“Just as a good diligent barber must keep his thoughts and eyes precisely on the razor and the hair, and not forget where he is while cutting hair, even though he may be chatting a great deal, he will be concentrating carefully, so that he keeps a close eye on where the razor is so he doesn’t cut somebody’s nose, or mouth, or even slice somebody’s throat. Therefore, it’s very clear that if a person is going to do something well, it requires him to focus and concentrate, as the old saying goes: *a person engaged in various pursuits, minds none of them well*. So, if this is true about other things in our life, how much more does prayer require the heart to be completely focused if it is to pray a good prayer?”

Martin Luther, *A Simple Way to Pray*, 1535 A.D.

When you pray the Jesus way, how confident should you be?

Luke 11:9-10

Jesus said, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

We end our prayer where we began—with certainty and confidence in Christ.

“Finally, note that you must always say ‘Amen’ strongly, with all faith, and without doubt that God certainly does hear you and say ‘yes’ to your prayer. Do not think for a moment that you kneel and stand there in prayer alone. You need to realize all of Christendom, that is, all pious Christians are with you, and you among them, in unanimous, unified prayer, which God cannot disdain. Do not leave from your prayers unless you have then said or thought: ‘Well then, this prayer has been heard by God. I know this for certain and for true.’ That is what *Amen* means.”

Martin Luther, *A Simple Way to Pray*, 1535 A.D.