

SIMPLE April 21, 2024

Being with Jesus in the Secret Place of Prayer. Matthew 6, Luke 11



FOLLOWING JESUS IS SIMPLE-IT'S JUST NOT EASY!

Sticky Statement: The REAL GOD experiencing the REAL YOU.

Prayer is simply being with Jesus.

Prayer is learning to practice the presence of God moment by moment, day by day in your life—just like Jesus did.

"16 But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." Luke 5:16

"⁴ <u>Abide</u> in Me, and <u>I in you</u>. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it <u>abides</u> in the vine, so neither can you unless you <u>abide</u> in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; he who <u>abides</u> in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for <u>apart from Me you can do nothing</u>." **John 15:4-5**

Abide "meno" = "to remain or to make your home in."

3 ways we should pray if we're going to Be with Jesus in Prayer: Being with Jesus requires that our...

1.	PRAYERS	ARE	WITH	JESUS.
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"And when you pray, <u>do not be like the hypocrites</u>, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners <u>to be seen by others</u>. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.... And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, ..." Matthew 6:5, 7-8

6 "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your <u>Father, who is unseen</u>. Then your Father, <u>who sees</u> what is done in secret, will reward you." V6

Q: Does Jesus have that kind of access to the real you in prayer?

2.	PRAYERS	ARE	ON JESUS
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The Lord's Prayer teaches us to reflect and remember ... Who we're praying to? Why we're praying? What we're praying for?

9 "This, then, is how you should pray:" 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. ¹⁴ For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." Matthew 6:9-15

3. PRAYERS ARE IN _____ WITH JESUS.

"There's no bad way to pray and no single starting point for prayer. The spiritual masters offer one nonnegotiable rule: you have to show up for prayer and show up regularly. Everything else is negotiable and respects your unique circumstances." - Ronald Rolheiser

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me." - John 15:1-4

Relational Discipleship Moment:

"pray without ceasing, - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

1. <u>Are Establish a daily prayer rhythm.</u> <u>morning</u> (Intimacy prayer), <u>midday</u> (Pray for the lost), and <u>evening</u> prayer (Prayer of gratitude)



2. Pray pre-made prayers.

(The Lord's Prayer, The Psalms, Scripture, Singing, Apps, Names of God Prayer Series)

• **QR code for the Names of God Prayer Series**. 21 Days of Prayer focused on seeing the real God who sees the real me.