

## **Why Is It Important That We Pray in Jesus' Name?**

When we pray, we close with,

**"in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen." Why?**

What does it mean to pray **in Jesus' name**?

God doesn't want our prayers to become formally religious – thoughtlessly repeating words without meaning for us.

**The Lord Jesus said,**

**"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14v6.**

He came to open the way to God and make the way possible for us sinners to approach the Holy God in prayer.

**Firstly**, as perfect God and Man

He came to die on the cross as the sinner's substitute.

**Secondly**, He was a successful Saviour

as He rose again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day having paid the price for the sins of His People when He died on the cross.

**Thirdly**, He ascended to Heaven

to sit at the right hand of the Father.

**He now sits on the Throne of Grace**

to receive our prayers and perfect them and present them to the Father.

**We must be repentant sinners,**

believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, praying to God in His Name.

Then we can continue to pray for other things praying to God in His Name.

**When we pray,**

we must plead the shed blood of Christ and His Righteousness for our prayer to be accepted.

**Our first prayer must be one of repentance.**

**As we are prone to sin we must approach The Throne of Grace frequently, seeking forgiveness in Christ's Name.**

## **Where Does The Lord Jesus Teach Us to Pray in His Name?**

On the night before His crucifixion,

He taught His disciples to pray in His name.

2

Recorded in the Gospel of John.

**This is for us today as well as for them.**

**John 14v13,14.**

**"And whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.**

**If ye shall ask any thing in My name, I will do it."**

Here, Jesus assures His disciples that their prayers, offered in His name, will be answered to bring glory to the Father through Him, the Son.

**This teaching underscores the authority** and mediatory role (go between) of The Lord Jesus in the relationship between believers and God.

Here, Jesus prepares His disciples for the time after his death, resurrection and ascension, when they will pray directly to the Father in His name.

This promise is intended to give them, and us, confidence and assurance in prayer.

## **What Does Praying in Jesus' Name Mean for Us Today?**

**Firstly**, Praying in Jesus' name

teaches us to pray with confidence.

Jesus encourages us to approach God boldly, trusting that our prayers are heard

and will be answered. **Hebrews 4v16.**

**"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."**

Because of the Father's love for us, and our personally knowing the finished work of Christ for us on the cross, we come before God under the authority and righteousness of God The Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Secondly**, praying in Jesus' name emphasises the importance of aligning our prayers with God's will.

**John 15:7.**

***"If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."***

We should add, **"According to Thy Will."**

This connection between abiding in Christ and effective prayer highlights the necessity of aligning our desires and requests with His teachings, principles, and purposes.

When we pray in Jesus' name, we are not merely adding a magic formula phrase to our prayers.

But we are seeking to pray in harmony with his character and will.

This alignment is further supported by **1 John 5v14,15.**

***"And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us:***

***And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him."***

This assurance comes from God's absolute ability to fulfil His own Sovereign will.

God's will has been set in eternity, before time began.

We know His will through studying the Scripture and listening to his voice.

**Thirdly**, praying in Jesus' name underscores our reliance on his authority and intercession at The Throne of Grace.

As our High Priest, the Lord Jesus mediates between us and God, making our prayers acceptable.

Having prayed for things then we must remember to say **Thank You** when our prayers are answered.

**Ephesians 5v20.**

***"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."***

So, the Lord has taught us to pray in His Name and ask that our prayers be according to God's Holy Will.