



Pray the Grace Way: Part 3

In, *Pray the Grace Way: Part 2*, I taught the main reason and the most important aspect about prayer – spontaneous relationship with the Father. When you pray to the Father and consider the finished work of Jesus and see yourself as the righteousness of God in Christ, no prayer is wasted prayer.

Our focus is no longer the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6 but the Upper Room Prayer in John 17. In this prayer, you will find Jesus speaking to Dad with boldness, intimacy, and very casual. Then, you will also find Jesus petitioning God.

Petitioning God is never wrong. He gives more than we ever want to receive. In fact, the sky is the limit when it comes to receiving from God. Just look at the way Jesus received and how much He received from the Father. So take and take and keep taking from the Father’s overflow of Grace towards you.

The way Jesus petitioned God is not like the way we used to: begging, pleading, and supplicating. No. The way Jesus petitioned God was with imperative statements:

- Glorify your Son...
- Now, glorify Me...
- Protect them...
- Make them holy...

Jesus knew the Father, His heart, and His will, so Jesus gave a declaration; He proclaimed forth. In other words, Jesus petitioned the Father imperatively and directed the Holy Spirit’s hand. This speaks of favor with God, knowing who He was, confidence in the relationship, and authority.

Don’t misunderstand me; in no way am I stating that Jesus was bossing everyone around. No. Jesus knew the Father and was dependent on the Holy Spirit. Jesus simply used the authority given to Him by the Father, prayed and things happened by yielding to the Holy Spirit.

You might be saying, “Of course, He is the Son of God.” But this is what I want to show you, and I believe it will begin to sink into your heart supernaturally.

John 16:26-27

Then you will ask in my name. I’m not saying I will ask the Father on your behalf, for the Father himself loves you dearly...

Jesus just said that believers in Christ have that same relationship, same favor with the Father, and same authority as He. This is what Jesus meant when He said, “You will ask in my name.”

We were taught that asking in the name of Jesus meant to add the phrase “in Jesus name” after every prayer to guarantee a response regardless of what was prayed.

Of course there’s nothing wrong with adding “in Jesus name” after every prayer. I do it when I pray out loud in public for the sake of the people listening to me; so they know by whose authority I’m praying and to give glory to Jesus Christ in public. I also encourage every believer in Christ to do so when praying out loud in public. However, that does not mean that “in Jesus name” is a magic phrase like a spell.

As a believer in Christ, we now have direct access to the Father. When we pray the grace way, it’s as if Jesus Himself was praying. This is what Jesus meant when He said that He will not ask the Father on your behalf. In other words, He commanded us (believers in Christ) to do it now.

Exodus 14:15-16

And the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it.

I believe sometimes God says the same thing when we beg Him, “Why do you cry to Me?” As believers in Christ, we don’t have a staff. We have *someone* better. It is Jesus Christ. As the righteousness of God in Christ, God embodied the name of Jesus with us.

A great man of God says it in this manner:

- “I feel that very frequently prayer is made a refuge to dodge the action of faith. – **John G. Lake**

This changes the dynamics of prayer because instead of asking God to do something, you take action, use your authority, and bring His will come to pass. The Bible calls this type of prayer, **earnest prayer**.

James 5:17

Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.

The other purpose of praying the grace way is to bring heaven’s will to earth. You can recall this back in the Lord’s Prayer when the disciples used to ask God to bring His will on earth as it was in heaven. But this time in the Upper Room Prayer, as believers in Christ, we embody the authority of Christ and make a proclamation, a command, or a declarative statement being fully confident the Holy Spirit will perform at our word. Of course, if you are not praying for something that Christ provided through the finished work and in line with the Word of God, then nothing will ever happen. More about earnest prayer: ([Read Grace Speaks Part 2](#))

Most of us don’t see this kind of results when we pray. And it’s ok. We are growing in who we are in Christ, what we have in Christ, and confidence in our walk with Christ. We will learn to step out and discover for ourselves the power that is at work in us through growing in God’s grace, deciding to love people in service and walking in our God-given call.

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