

SOLID ROCK 8 Jesus on the Mainline "It's for yooou!"

Jesus, our example of how to live, often spent time in prayer with His Father. We know that He knew God's will from the Word of God (Matthew 4) but He also spent time communicating with God, sometimes all night. (Luke 6:12) The Word tells us it was his habit. (Mark 1:35) He often got up way before sun up to be alone and pray. If He needed to, how much more do you think we need to?

How often do get alone and talk to Jesus? How often do you think you need to?

Why? _____

Romans 8:26-29 What does verse 26 say the Holy Spirit does for us?

How about John 14:26, 1Corinthians 3:16?

Romans 8:27 told us God hears our _____ more than the words in prayer.

How should this fact affect your prayer life? _____

God will always answer our prayers! Here are 5 of the most common answers

1. NO, I've got something better. (Matthew 26:36-39)

2. SLOW, Not right now; hold on. (John 11)

3. GROW, You get right within so you can handle it.

Psalm 66:18 _____

James 4:3 _____

Matthew 6:14-15 _____

1Pt 3:7 _____

4. GO, Yes, I thought you'd never ask! (John 16:24)

5. GO, Yes, and here's more! (Ephesians 3:20)

You can't bother God. He wants you to continue to bring your cares and burdens to Him. 1Peter 5:7, Ephesians 1:18 Paul prayed for an enlightened heart more than for his outward circumstances to change. Understand that God is not offended if you are angry when you pray. He knows your pain and feelings better than you do yourself. Much of prayer is bringing our heart to Him and letting Him change it to his viewpoint or at least to a place of trust and faith instead of fear and worry.

Let's practice together this prayer pattern. You may want to apply it to your prayer time: ACTS

A - ADORATION Praise God for who He is. You can think of an attribute for every letter in the alphabet. That helps to change your outlook. (Psalm 119)

C - CONFESSION Agree with God concerning any specific sin. (1John 1:9)

T - THANKSGIVING Thank Him for what He has done. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

S - SUPPLICATION Ask Him for your needs and the needs of those He puts on your heart. (Philippians 4:6-7)

A LOVE LETTER FROM JESUS

How are you? I just had to send you this letter to remind you of how much I love and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day, hoping you would walk and talk with me, too. Then I waited, but you never came. Oh, yes it hurt me, but I still love you because I am your friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night, and I longed to touch your brow. So I spilled some moonlight on your pillow and across your face... again I waited, wanting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts for you!

You awakened this morning and rushed off for the day. My tears were in the rain. Today you looked so sad and alone, it made my heart ache because I understand, My friends let me down and hurt me many times, but I still love you. I try to tell you in the quiet green grass, I whisper it in the leaves and trees, and breathe it in the color of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams, and give the birds songs to sing of joy. I clothe you in warm sunshine, and perfume the air. My love for you is deeper than the biggest want or greatest need you could ever have.

We will spend eternity together in Heaven. I know how hard it is on earth. I really do know because I was there, and I want to help you. My Father wants to help you, too. He's just that way, you know. All you have to do is call me, ask me, talk to me. It's your decision. I have already chosen you, but because of my love for you I will wait until you ask me...

Your Friend
Jesus

This lesson is adapted with additions from Skyline Wesleyan Church, New Christian Class by Fleisher.