

The other side of prayer



Then Jesus went with them to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and he said, “Sit here while I go over there to pray.”³⁷ He took Peter and Zebedee’s two sons, James and John, and he became anguished and distressed.

Matthew 26:36-37

He told them, “My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

³⁵ He went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by. ³⁶ “Abba, Father,” he cried out, “everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”

Mark 14:34-36

Then an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened him. ⁴⁴ He prayed more fervently, and he was in such agony of spirit that his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood. ⁴⁵ At last he stood up again and returned to the disciples, only to find them asleep, exhausted from grief. ⁴⁶ “Why are you sleeping?” he asked them. “Get up and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation.”

Luke 22:43-46

After saying these things, Jesus crossed the Kidron Valley with his disciples and entered a grove of olive trees.

² Judas, the betrayer, knew this place, because Jesus had often gone there with his disciples... Jesus fully realized all that was going to happen to him, so he stepped forward to meet them. “Who are you looking for?” he asked. ⁵ “Jesus the Nazarene,” they replied. “I Am he,” Jesus said. (Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them.) ⁶ As Jesus said “I Am he,” they all drew back and fell to the ground!

John 18:1-6

What Happens When You Pray

1. When you pray you exchange your will for God's will

“My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me...”

Matthew 26:39

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- 2. When you pray you engage the support of heaven!**

¹² Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer. ¹³ But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia. ¹⁴ Now I am here to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come.”

Daniel 10:12-14

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- 5. When you pray God changes you!**