

welcome to the ekklesia fellowship!

Fellowship *with* the Father Prayer: In Jesus' Name

November 13, 2005

Prayer: In Jesus' Name

The unique secret of the life *in Christ* is the exchanged life. We don't live our own lives, we live the life of another, or more accurately, another lives His life through us. [Luke 9:23](#); [Gal. 2:20](#)

- **John 14:12** – Jesus working through us
 - [2 Cor. 3:5](#) – nothing coming from us!
 - –borrowed activity
- **John 14:13** – “ask in My name”
- What does it mean to pray “in Jesus’ Name?”
 1. We are taught to pray “in Jesus’ name”
 - Consider: [John 14:13,14](#); [15:16](#); [16:23,24,26](#)
 - [Acts 2:38](#); [3:6](#); [4:18](#); [5:40](#); [8:16](#); [9:27](#); [9:29](#); [16:18](#); [19:5](#)
 2. The Biblical Concept of a **Name**
 - It involves much more than a tag that identifies a person and distinguishes him/her from other people
 - **Name** in scripture represents the very essence of the person.
 - *A person's personality, character, reputation and authority are all wrapped up in their name.*

Prayer: In Jesus' Name

2. The Biblical Concept of a **Name** (cont.)
 - **Name** in scripture represents the very essence of the person.
 - *A person's personality, character, reputation and authority are all wrapped up in their name.*
 - [Proverbs 22:1](#) – A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.
 - [Ecclesiastes 7:1](#) – A good name is better than precious ointment.
 - Besides a man's soul, biblically speaking this is the most important possession a person has.
3. The Importance of **God's Name**
 - This explains why God's name is so extremely exalted!
 - *God's name is a declaration of the greatness of His Person – His character, His might, His love, His holiness*
 - [Psalm 8:1](#) – O LORD our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! who hast set Thy glory above the heavens.
 - [Psalm 103:1](#) – Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name.
 - [Psalm 148:13](#) – Let them praise the name of the LORD: for His name alone is excellent; His glory is above the earth and heaven.

Prayer: In Jesus' Name

3. The Importance of **God's Name** (cont.)
 - [Matt. 6:9](#) – Jesus taught us to pray, “Holy is Your Name.”
 - [Rom. 14:11](#) – “Every knee shall bow to Me”
 - Why? – [Philippians 2:9,10!](#)
4. Acting in the **Name of Another**
 - **First implication:** you come by the authority of the other person.
 - You are not coming in your own authority but because someone else authorized you to take these actions.
 - [1 Samuel 17:45](#) – David was not there of himself
 - **Second implication:** you come on their behalf – an ambassador. ([2 Cor. 5:20](#))
5. Praying **in the Name of Jesus**
 1. When we come to the Father, we come because Jesus sent us. We are sent to the Father by His own Son!
 - [Hebrews 4:16](#) – we must approach the Father confidently
 - If one of the angels were to ask us on the way in, “What are you doing here?”...We can reply, “The Son sent me.”
 - What a glorious commission! We are sent by the Son to seek help from the Father!

Prayer: In Jesus' Name

5. Praying **in the Name of Jesus** (cont.)
2. Is to identify the content and motivations of the requests with all that Jesus is, within His will – the will of the Father.
 - [Eph. 1:5,6](#) – adopted sons and daughters through Jesus.
 - [Romans 8:17](#) – heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.
- **John 14:13** – borrowed authority
 1. “whatever” – the scope of prayer
 2. “ask” – the condition of prayer
 3. “in my name” – the ground of prayer
 - Praying in the authority Jesus gives us
 - Praying in Union with Him, not outside His will
 4. “that will I do” – the certainty of prayer
 5. “that the Father may be glorified in the Son” – the purpose of prayer ([Luke 22:42](#) – “*not My will, but Thine be done!*”)
- “Whatever you need to carry out My Father's will – to bring glory to His Name – you have My authority, just ask for it and it will be done by Me.”

Prayer: In Jesus' Name

- “The disciple who lives only for Jesus' work and Kingdom, for His will and honor, will be given the power to appropriate the promise. Anyone grasping the promise only when he wants something very special for himself will be disappointed, because he is making Jesus the servant of his own comfort.” (*Andrew Murray, With Christ in the School of Prayer*)
- **Conclusion:**
 - “in Jesus name” isn't just a salutation on the end of our prayers. It is infinitely more than that.
 - It means that we come boldly to the Father with the knowledge that your only right to approach Him is the blood of His Son on the cross and that Jesus Himself has sent us to Him.
 - It means that we know that we are totally unworthy of receiving anything from the Father and that the only reason He should grant your requests is that we come in the authority of His Son's name, seeking only from the Father that which will bring glory to Him.