

Power in Jesus's Name

If we are walking with Jesus, his power will be evident in our lives. A resistant will severely limit the power of Christ in a believer's life.

Sometimes, we are tempted to try to use the power of God to attain things that are only of benefit to our flesh. These may be earthly possessions or that which bolsters the pride of our own image. "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts" (James 4:3). Our cry to our Father must always be "Thy will be done" and "Thy kingdom be glorified." When we view our needs through the lens of eternity, we can rightly judge the petitions that we bring to Him.

Is Jesus more than an insurance agent whom you call in times of loss or sorrow? Or is He your reason for living, the source of power in your life, the head of your home, and the Lord of the church? Are you able to bring a petition to Him, truly believing that you will see it accomplished according to his will?

Scriptures

1 John 1:7

Philippians 2:9-11

Colossians 3:17

John 14:13-14

John 16:23-24

Acts 3:1-26

James 4:3-4

Questions

1. Are all prayers answered? Why or why not?
2. How could we make turning to Jesus our first response instead of a last resort?
3. What is the formula for an effective prayer? Is it more effective if many people are praying for a situation?
4. Why is it important to end each prayer in Jesus's name? Should we be more diligent in teaching young people how to pray?
5. In Matthew 7:22-23, we read of those who cast out evil spirits in the name of Jesus but were not saved. How do we explain this? Is there power in Jesus's name even in the mouth of unbelievers?
6. Why do children's prayers seem to get answered more quickly? Is it all due to simple faith, or does the humble way a child will call Jesus by name as a friend also have a part?
7. Why do most adults move away from starting our prayers by saying, "Dear Jesus"?