

The Prayer Of Stillness Before God

God calls us to be still before Him. In this quiet expectancy, with humility of spirit and honesty of soul, we will discover He is very near to us.

Stillness Before the Most High is Creative

Almost any thing God accomplishes is done in silence. It is in the stillness of His profound presence that we sense our souls become serene. There we find rest, repose, and re-creation. Only in intimate and first hand interaction with His Spirit am I remade in His likeness. Christ's own superb character impacts mine. I become like the one with whom I spend my most special time daily.

One Must Be Still to Hear Our Father

To hear God implies three personal responses on my part:

- 1. I recognize in truth it is Him speaking to me;**
- 2. I ready myself to respond in faith to what He says;**
- 3. I actually, then, resolve to go out and do His bidding.**

Most of us are so preoccupied pouring out our own petitions we will not pause to listen to what He tells us. Be still. Be calm. Be receptive. Wait confidently for Him to instruct and guide in the way He wishes you to live. This is the way to pray.

Our Father has chosen several specific ways in which to commune with His own beloved children. It is essential to understand these. Then life with Him becomes a great adventure as we learn daily to carry out His wishes and bring enormous pleasure to Him.

- 1. He speaks clearly to us through His own Word. Read it. Ruminant on it. Resolve to act on it in faith.**
- 2. He speaks to us through the remarkable life of Christ. It is He who is the visible expression of the invisible God.**
- 3. He speaks to us through the still, small, inner voice of His**

own Spirit. He convicts us in how we ought to live.

4. He speaks to us through the splendor, design, order, and beauty of His created world. Spend time outdoors alone with Him.

Be Still and Wait on God to Act in His Own Time

Christ, just as with His own disciples I His earthly days, calls us to come to the awareness we need to be still. We need to get alone with Him. We need to sense the still, refreshing dews of His presence, His peace, His power to restore our souls and spirits. Give Him time to do this!

To do this in a practical way, find a quiet spot where you can have a secret rendezvous with Christ. Set aside a special time to be alone with Christ in close communion. Compose your soul calmly. Quiet your emotions, concentrate your mind on your heavenly Father's great generosity to you to allow His Spirit to speak to your innermost heart (or will), from and by His Word.

You will be refreshed. He will not disappoint you. Your spirit will be serene. Your soul will be at rest. You will be strong in your confidence in Christ. Then you can calmly go out into the weary world knowing God will use you to touch others with His own divine love and dignity.

Be Still and Watch Him Work in the World

Our Father yearns for His children to awake to the fact we need His might to make things right. For far too long we assumed it was our skills, our plans, our programs that would turn back the tide of evil sweeping over society. Only He can, by the majestic power of His own supernatural Spirit!

In stillness, in solitude, in sincerity there are those stalwarts who in severe self-sacrifice pray and pray and pray for a mighty calling to stand strong in unshakable faith and see what great things our God can do in a world on the edge of anarchy and utter destruction. This is a solitary, unsung labor of love.

In Stillness Christ Draws Very Near

It is essential for us to understand clearly that our Father is not only delighted to have us draw near to Him in quiet communion, but He in turn loves to draw near to us. He loves to make Himself known in reality to His child. He revels in the company of the one who is humble in heart (will,soul) and contrite in spirit.

***It is in stillness we bear our souls before Him.
In solitude we honestly confess our sinister sins.
In silence we wait to hear Him speak peace.
In serenity He assures us all is well.***

At such times we sense and know and respond in Christ's precious presence. His profound peace flows into our spirits. We are renewed with power to face the day and all its demands.

God's gracious Spirit bears quiet witness within my seeking spirit that He is here! He is near! He is very dear! And because of Him all is well!

This is the way to pray in privacy and in purity. Nothing is hidden. All is open. Hope comes anew.

***It is He who wipes away the tears of our inner anguish.
It is He who speaks consolation to our contrition.
It is He who heals our wounded spirits.
He gives us the joy of gladness again.
He it is who re-creates us.***

For the seeking soul, the hours of stillness and of solitude with the living Christ becomes treasured times. I urge you, get to truly know God this way.

Be Still and Honestly Worship the Most High

Perhaps there is no other encounter with our Father that leads us into utter humility and quiet brokenness before Him. In solitude we sense something of the supreme purity of His person. We are still, subdued, in awe and wonder at His

absolute Holiness. There sweeps over us, around us, through us, an amazing awareness of indescribable delight of wholeness.

I am forgiven.

I am cleansed.

I am re-created

I am made new.

This generates such an up swelling of gratitude, praise, and worship that it flows freely, spontaneously. This is true worship, honest worship at its loftiest and most noble level. His spirit injects into our spirits a new dimension of strength, serenity, and surety in Christ.

It is out of such remarkable moments that I can go out into our sin-stained society and boldly, gladly, gratefully speak of our Lord without shame and without apology. For He has met me. He has touched me. He has made me whole!

It is all His grace, His generosity, His goodness. So I am glad, glad, glad to go on His behalf.

In Stillness Christ Fills Me with His Spirit

Oh, the wonder of just coming to Christ in open, honest, and deep longing to be refreshed with His life! He invites us to come day after day to drink and drink of Him. There is no other way to pray and to ask to be filled and filled and filled, again and again and again.

We are but the channels through which He can pour the power and refreshment of His own life. In stillness we repose in Him, open to His presence, allowing Him to fill us constantly!¹

¹ Adapted from His Way To Pray By . Philip Keller