

The Lord's Prayer: Amen

1 Chronicles 16:34-36 ❖ Matthew 6:13c

“Probably most of us can't remember the first time we heard the Lord's Prayer. Even in this time of so much biblical illiteracy, the Lord's Prayer is still part of the common possession of several billion people. And for many of us, neither can we remember when we memorized it - because our memorizing was not a conscious effort; it was simply the process of hearing the words until they were part of our very persons. These words may be the most familiar collection of words on our planet.”

(“Reflections on the Lord's Prayer,” Ellsworth J. Kalas)

Jesus' Model Prayer

The Lord's Prayer teaches Christians that we have _____ and _____ access to God.

Jesus taught His disciples to pray not only “under the pressure of _____ distress, but rather in the light of _____.” (“Our Heavenly Father,” Helmut Thielicke, p. 156)

The Lord's Prayer is not _____. Before Jesus taught this _____ prayer, He said, “_____ you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their _____ words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him” (Matthew 6:7-8).

The Lord's Prayer ends with the Hebrew word Amen, which means “_____.”

Amen

The last question and answer in “The Shorter Catechism” of the “Westminster Confession of Faith” is:

Question 107: What does the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer teach us?

Answer: ... To show that we want to be _____ and have confidence that we _____, we say Amen.

Throughout the Bible, many _____, benedictions and _____ end with Amen.

1 Chronicles 16:36 is an example from the Old Testament: “Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Then all the people said, ‘_____’ and ‘Praise the LORD.’”

The _____ word in the New Testament/in the Bible is Amen. “The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. _____” (Revelation 22:21).

A Bold Prayer

Whereas most Presbyterian pastors preface the Lord's Prayer with the words “as we pray together the prayer Jesus _____ us to pray, saying ...” in the Church of England, the minister leads into the Lord's Prayer with this phrase: “We are _____ to say ...”

Knowing we will end this prayer _____, we say:

“Our _____ in heaven,
Hallowed be Your _____,
Your _____ come,
Your _____ be done on earth as it _____ in heaven.

Give us _____ our _____ bread.
Forgive us our _____ as we forgive our _____.
And lead us not into _____, but deliver us from _____.

For _____ is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
_____” (Matthew 6:9-13).

Takeaway

In one of my favorite books, “801 Questions Kids Ask About God,” Anisa Baker includes this one:

Question 225: Why do we say *Amen* when we're _____ praying?
Answer: *Amen* means “_____ or “It is true.” It is simply a way of closing a prayer. We close letters with a similar word, sincerely. *Amen* means we have said what we _____ and believe that God has _____ our prayer.

To say *Amen* - “So be it” - is a way of saying that we trust God to answer. It reminds us that God has everything under _____.

