

## After Amen

(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

- Introduction:
1. I find it amazing that so many of us struggle with our prayer life, when so many promises are connected with it.
    - a. (1 John 5:14-15).
    - b. (Mathew 7:7-11).
  2. Someone once said that Jesus was more willing to go to the cross than we are to go to the throne of God in prayer.
  3. While these things are true, the aim of this lesson is not to be another sermon encouraging you to pray, but is rather, a sermon on what to do after you pray.

### I. After Amen – Live Obediently

- A. Have you ever considered that while you're waiting on God for an answer to your prayers, he's waiting on you?
- B. We can't manipulate God, like a child can sometimes manipulate his parents.
- C. (John 2:1-11).
- D. Maybe while we're waiting for God to answer our prayers, he's waiting for us to fill the jars.
- E. Live lives that are consistent with and in harmony with your prayers.
- F. When we pray for the church, our families, our marriages, our neighbors, we must then live lives consistent with our prayers if we expect God to answer.

### II. After Amen – Trust the Sovereignty of God

- A. Prayer should be a relief and consolation to our souls.
- B. (Matthew 7:7-11) God will answer and he will give us what is good.
- C. (Romans 8:28).
- D. If we could embrace the fact that God sees the end from the beginning, we can more readily resign ourselves to his activities.
- E. This knowledge will create faith/trust and that will in turn create peace in the midst of our circumstances.
- F. What happens next is not nearly as disturbing when we know what happens last.

- Conclusion:
1. If we need to improve our prayer life, let's do it.
  2. When we don't pray, we miss out on so much (Ephesians 3:20).
  3. This lesson is nothing new. It's simply a reaffirmation of what we have sung for years... "Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey."