



Shocked!



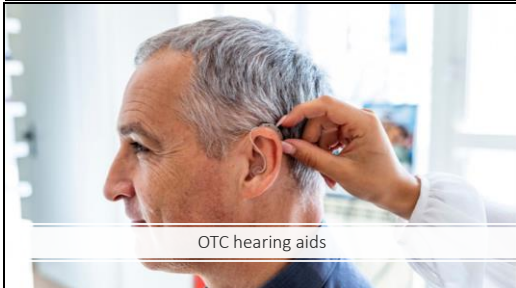
Shocked



Mark Ciavarella and Michael Conahan, two former Pennsylvania judges sent children to for-profit jails in exchange for \$2.8M in kickbacks. They started off by shutting down a county-run juvenile center and sent children as young as 8 years old to two for-profit jails. Many of the children were first-time offenders for minor infractions, including petty theft, jaywalking, and skipping school. About 4,000 juvenile convictions were thrown out after the scheme was uncovered.



Anna Rosa Ziefuss, the German scientist who has achieved the impossible: making cold-brewed coffee in a record three minutes instead of half a day. Her secret ingredients? A laser.



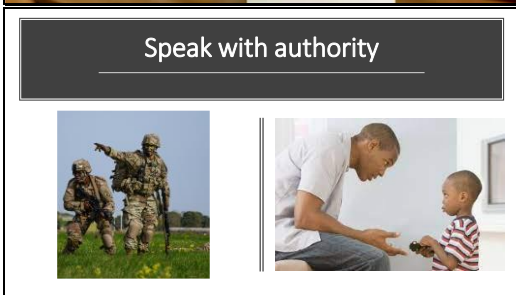
Hearing aids for over-the-counter sales could be available in stores as soon as mid-October, the FDA said in a statement on Tuesday.



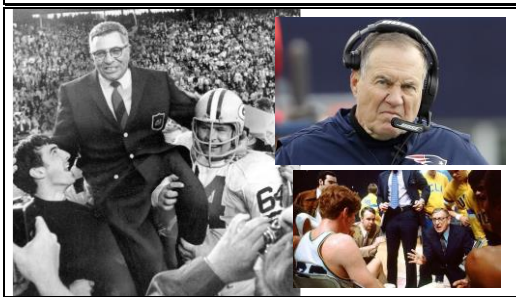
Recent video of a wave pool in China



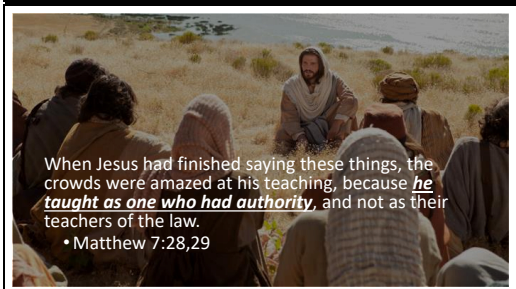
Who speaks with Authority? Why?



In sports, Vince Lombardi, John Wooden, and Bill Belichick. But when it comes to prayer, who better to speak to us with authority than Jesus.



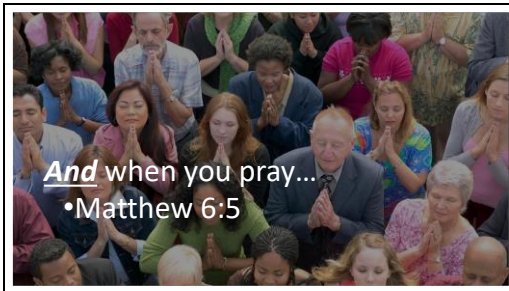
When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because **he taught as one who had authority**, and not as their teachers of the law.



**he taught as one who had authority** – when Jesus spoke and taught, it had power, weight, influence, moved people, in the right



There is a right and wrong way to pray. Jesus starts with what they know and experience – the wrong way. And it all starts out with a short, simple word that most of us miss.



**And** when you pray...

•Matthew 6:5

#### #1 Wrong – Seen

And when you pray, do not be like the **hypocrites**, for they love to pray **standing** in the synagogues and on the street corners **to be seen by others**. Truly I tell you, they have **received their reward in full**.

•Matthew 6:5



**And** when you pray – everyone prays.

The first wrong way – to be seen

And when you pray, do not be like the **hypocrites**, for they love to pray **standing** in the synagogues and on the street corners **to be seen by others**. Truly I tell you, they have **received their reward in full**.

**hypocrites** – behind a mask, Jesus doesn't point to them being hypocrites because of sexual or money problems, but because of private prayer problem.

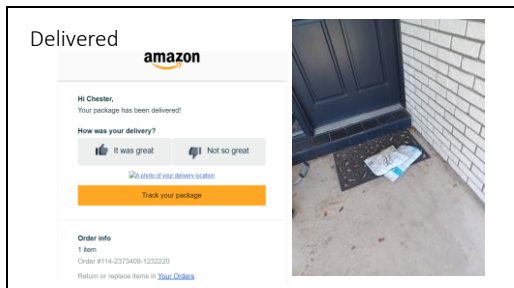
Private prayer is the one and only thing you do totally alone in the Christian life.

**standing** – there were no seats in the synagogues or street corners, public prayer is fine but must be backed up by private prayer.

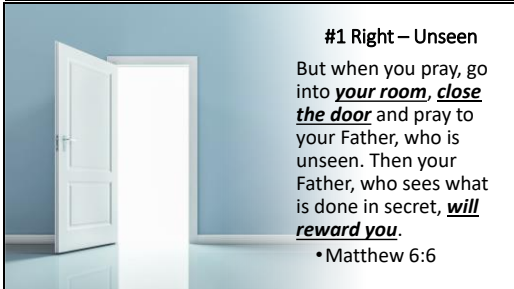
**to be seen by others** – in the spotlight, their motivation is to get likes, applause, recognition, pats on the back.

**received their reward in full** – they have a salary, earned receiving.

**received their reward in full** – they have a reward. It was delivered. No question about it.



What's the purpose of the "Red Carpet?" to be seen. To be noticed. To be photographed. There is no prayer red carpet. Just the opposite.



#### #1 Right – Unseen

But when you pray, go into **your room**, **close the door** and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, **will reward you**.

•Matthew 6:6

But when you pray, go into **your room**, **close the door** and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, **will reward you**.

**your room** – inner room or closet, not someone else's place, your place that only God and you know about,



what's going on inside. **close the door** – intimacy requires aloneness.

**will reward you.** – God will give from himself, not just what we've earned but from his heart, more than what we deserve, gracious giving. Ephesians 3:20 kind of rewarding.



Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us

- Ephesians 3:20

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Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us

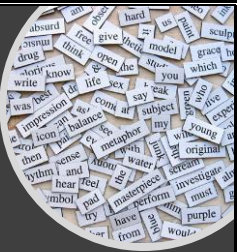


He will reward – not a maybe, but a guarantee. Way and timing is not in our control.

## #2 Wrong – Babbling

And when you pray, do not **keep on babbling** like pagans, for **they think** they will be heard because of their **many words**.

- Matthew 6:7



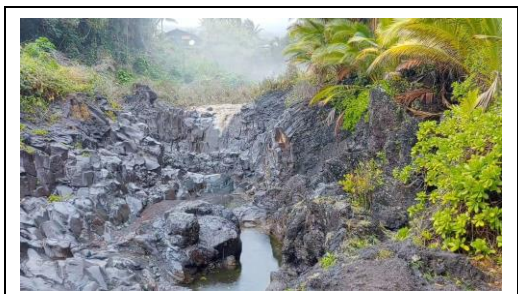
And when you pray, do not **keep on babbling** like pagans, for **they think** they will be heard because of their **many words**.

**they think** – not what God says but what they think, their answer, their solution

**many words** – not a word, or some words, but lots and lots of words.

**keep on babbling** – interesting idea.

**keep on babbling** – not a baby babbling, but more like a raging river, a torrent, a tsunami of words that push and confuse, disorient.



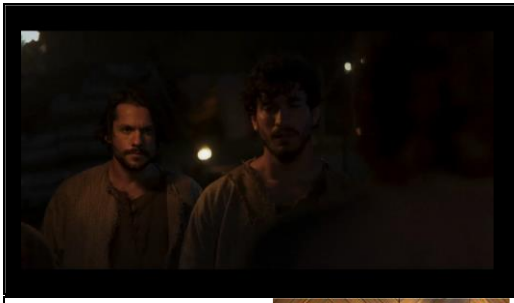
Do not be like  
them, for your  
**Father knows**  
what you need  
before you ask  
him.

- Matthew 6:8

## #2 Right – God Knows

Do not be like them, for **your Father knows** what you need before you ask him.

**your Father knows** – our telling him is not a bulletin, an update, or live video broadcast., he sees it, it's visible. There is no reveal to God.



Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

•Matthew 6:9,10



Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

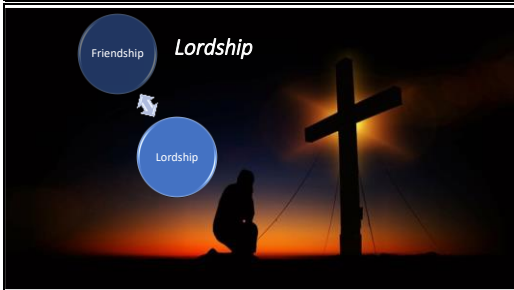
This is where we have to start: with God and not dumping our shopping list, our to-do list on him. Has nothing to do with our daily needs, it's all about our daily relationship with God. And this comes in 3 areas of our relationship with God.



Friendship – not looking for a big God but our friend. Do we really believe that he has nothing but our good in his heart? In his plan?

Know him intimately, “Our Father”, the place where we start.

Today, it's done through technique, checklists, do it this way,



You're God and I'm not. Are we willing to let go of control? Can't overcome guilt, shame, anger, worry, anxiety? It's because we're still trying to be God. Martin Luther's friend Phillip Melanchthon was a younger scholar—and a big worrier. Ulcer. High anxiety. He often panicked. And Luther would look at Melanchthon and say, “Let Philip cease to rule the world.”

Are we willing to let God rule the world? Rule our lives? Look at him for who he is: holiness, kingship, eternal to heal our heart.



Sonship – accept me just as I am because of who Jesus is and what he's done. Adult adoption into God's family, not restricted based on sex, race. We get his name, his home, his resources, his respect, his inheritance.

So, how do we pray? After daily time with God in His word, ask 2 questions...



Prayer doesn't change God, it changes me



After daily time with God in His word, ask 2 questions:  
 What are you telling me:  
 About you?  
 About me  
 Reread and listen to what God has to say about those 2 questions from that passage.  
 Then pray, asking God to make them both real in your life. Thanking him for what it says about him and then confess what it says about you.

