

Filled to Overflow: *Praying with Eyes Wide Open*

Praying with Eyes Wide Open

- Have you ever wondered, why we close our eyes when we pray?

John 17:1 "...after Jesus said this he looked toward heaven and prayed..."

John 11:41-42

When they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me.

Matthew 14:19-20

Ordering the people to sit down on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed *the food*, and breaking the loaves He gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds,²⁰ and they all ate and were satisfied...

Seeking God's Face

Psalms 105:4 Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

Psalms 119:58

I have sought your face with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.

Psalms 27:7-9

Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me. My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek. Do not hide your face from me...you have been my helper.

- When Eyes Meet
 - The intimacy of eye contact

1 Kings 8:29-30

May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. Hear the requests of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

1 Kings 9:3

“I have heard the prayer and plea you have made before me; I have consecrated this temple, which you have built, by putting my Name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.”

- Making eye contact while praying for people

“Never Stop Praying...”

1 Thessalonians 5:17-19

Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.

- **“Thankful in all circumstances...”**
- **“God’s will...”**
- **“Do not stifle the Holy Spirit...”**

“When you pray with your eyes open, your time with God is limitless...”

- Sherry Harney

- **Limitless Possibilities in Your Ordinary Day** (*Praying with Eyes Wide Open*, pp. 32-35)