A Discourse of Closet Prayer

by Thomas Brooks, published during the awful plague of London in 1665

Mr. Wayne Kirk, teacher

THE VITAL
IMPORTANCE
OF PRIVATE
PRAYER



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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

Twenty arguments to persuade you to closet prayer

1. The most eminent saints, both in the Old and New Testament, have applied themselves to private prayer.

2. Consider, when Christ was on earth, he did much exercise himself in secret prayer.

3. Consider that the ordinary exercising of yourselves in secret prayer, is that which will distinguish you from hypocrites.

4. In secret we may more freely, and fully, and safely unbosom our souls to God than we can in the presence of others.

5. Secret duties shall have open rewards.

6. God has usually manifested himself most to his people when they have been in secret.

7. Consider the time of this life is the only time for private prayer.

8. Consider the great prevalency of secret prayer.

9. Secret duties are the most soul-enriching duties.

10. Take many things together.