

Help him, Jesus, help him!

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One of our assignments in seminary was to go experience a number of worship services that were different than what we were familiar with. Some colleagues and I visited a small country church that was having a revival. When they found out that they had some “preachers-going- to bees” with them, they called us up front to share with them a word from the Lord. There was no getting around it.

Fortunately, I had a scriptural message that I had been working on, so I wasn't in too bad of shape. But something happened. As I was sharing the message that I had, a lady in the back stood up and shouted “Amen!”

I had never been “amened” before. It was kind of neat. I became even more inspired as “Yes, Lord!” and more amens followed.

One of my colleagues, however, struggled when his turn came to preach. He struggled and we struggled in empathy with him. Finally, the same lady who amened me stood up, raised her hand, and shouted, “Help him, Jesus. Help him!”

We later laughed about it, but “Help him, Jesus, help him!” became a battle cry that caught on throughout my seminary career. If someone stuttered or hesitated, you would here someone from the back of the room call out, “Help him, Jesus, help him!”

We said it in jest, but there was a lot of truth behind it. When someone stutters or falls, our prayer should be, “Help him, Jesus, help him!” If a mother is struggling with a child, “Help her, Jesus, help her!” As you drive by those areas of town that need help, don't hesitate to ask our Lord to help them. If you see someone in an accident, a colleague at work in need, or a friend suffering, go to the Master Helper and ask for Him to help out.

And when someone does something good or right, let our responses be, “Amen!” or “Thank You, Lord!” Some research has shown that we need the equivalent of 17 good affirmations a day in order to thrive. These can come in the forms of encouraging words, hugs, handshakes, and even “Amens.” The world around us is starving for these affirmations. How many have you received today? How many have you given out?

Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> is the National Day of Prayer. Why not see how many people you can daily help “thrive” between now and then? Why not on that day join with others and ask our Lord to help our nation, our leaders, our communities, and our families? Let us all join together and pray, “Help them, Jesus, help them!”