

THOMAS NELSON PRESS RELEASE

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Before Amen

Bestselling Author & Pastor Max Lucado Explores the “Power of a Simple Prayer”

Nashville, TN—People pray. *New York Times* Bestselling Author and Pastor Max Lucado cites in his new book *Before Amen: The Power of A Simple Prayer* (Thomas Nelson, October 2014) that every week, more people will pray than will exercise, go to work, or have sex. But when it comes to praying, many don't know where to begin.

Before Amen, Lucado's most personal and candid humble book to date, is written for everyone who wants to pray more, better and stronger, with more fire, faith and fervency. He admits to his own failures in this area, calling himself a “recovering prayer wimp” and offering specific ways people can experience a heart connection with God through prayer.

“Prayer, for most of us, is not defined by a month-long retreat, or even an hour of meditation,” writes Lucado. “Prayer is conversation with God, between appointments, while walking the hallway to class, or interacting with a client.”

Lucado believes that a vibrant prayer life does not mean your prayers are better or more eloquent than others. Quite the opposite. Lucado says humility combined with confidence provides a God-given prayer strength. Writes Lucado: “Since you matter to God, your prayers matter in heaven. You're never without hope because you are never without prayer.”

He builds *Before Amen* on a simple “pocket prayer,” distilling all the prayers of the Bible into one that is easy-to-remember and as near as your pocket.

Father,
 You are good.
 I need help.
 They need help.
 Thank you.
 In Jesus' name, amen.

This “pocket prayer” has been key in changing Lucado's attitude about and practices in prayer. “Yes, I am a prayer wimp, but a *recovering* prayer wimp. Not where I long to be, but nor am I where I was. My time in prayer has become my time of power.”

Lucado sprinkles *Before Amen* with powerful stories of powerful prayers. He also writes about some of his own doubts about prayer, sharing how to overcome disappointment from unanswered prayers and be confident that God hears. *Before Amen* will allow readers to calm the chaos of life by embracing a prayer life that brings peace and rest.

Max Lucado is the leading inspirational author in United States. His writings have been shaped into bestselling books, videos, devotionals, songs, greeting cards, booklets, Bible studies, commentaries, and theatrically released movies. More than 120 million Lucado products have been printed in 54 languages, including 92 million books to date. Lucado's books have appeared on national bestseller lists such as *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Publishers Weekly* and *ECPA*. Lucado has been featured on countless national media outlets including *The TODAY Show*, *Good Morning America*, *Huckabee*, and *Fox & Friends*. Max and his wife of more than 30 years, Denalyn, call San Antonio, Texas, home. Max has served the people of Oak Hills Church for 25 years. <http://www.maxlucado.com>

Thomas Nelson publishers is a world leading provider of Christian content and has been providing readers with quality inspirational product for more than 200 years. As part of HarperCollins Christian Publishing Inc., the publishing group provides multiple formats of award-winning Bibles, books, gift books, cookbooks, curriculum and digital content, with distribution of its products in more than 100 countries. Thomas Nelson, is headquartered in Nashville, TN. For additional information visit www.thomasnelson.com.

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Before Amen

The Power of A Simple Prayer

By Max Lucado

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