WHAT TO PRAY: SET PRAYERS: AMIDA: LOCATION

AMIDA: LOCATION: CHANGING

Amida: Location: Moving Away

You may not move from where you began saying the *amida* until you finish the *amida*.

EXAMPLE

You may not get on or off a bus in the middle of saying the *amida*.

NOTE It is better to say the abridged version of the *amida* (this appears in some *siddurs*) if you do not have time to say it without interruption (but you may say the abridged version only during the summer, since you must say *mashiv ha'ruach* and other additions during the winter).

EXCEPTIONS Walking To Avoid Being Disturbed

You may walk to another place, even in the middle of the *amida*, if you are disturbed or distracted where you are, such as to move away from:

- An immodestly dressed woman or other visual distraction,
- Bad smell,
- Animal, or
- Noise (such as people talking).

Walking To Correct a Mistake

You may walk across the room--even in the middle of the *amida*--in order to look in a book of *halacha* to see how to correct a mistake or omission you made while saying the *amida*.

AMIDA: LOCATION: WHERE TO FACE

When To Face Jerusalem

Face toward Jerusalem when saying the *amida*.

NOTE You may not stand with your back to an ark containing a *Torah* scroll, so you might need to modify the direction in which you are facing.

How To Face Jerusalem

To face Jerusalem, turn toward the “great circle”--the shortest route over the surface of a sphere or the globe (not necessarily eastward). If you don't know which is the correct direction, or if facing toward Jerusalem would make you face improperly dressed people, feces, or other distracting or disgusting items, then focus your thoughts on Jerusalem and face any direction.

Where To Face for Wisdom or Wealth

When praying:

- To gain wisdom, face slightly south.
- To gain wealth, face slightly north.

This is a non-binding suggestion, not a *halacha*.

AMIDA: LOCATION: NEAR SOMEONE PRAYING

Amida: Someone Praying

Don't cross within 7 feet (4 *amot*, or 2.1 m) in front of someone who is saying the *amida*, even if there is an intervening chair or other furniture in front of the person who is praying. If you finish before someone who is directly behind you, you must wait for the person to finish his or her *amida* before you step directly back. However, you may step back on an angle so that you do not end up in front of the person who was behind you.

Amida: Someone Blocking the Way while Praying

You may walk in front of someone who is praying in a doorway or otherwise blocking the way, since they are not allowed to block other people from entering.

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