

LIFE IN HIM

Andy Deane · 09/4/2022 · John 17

In studying Jesus' longest recorded prayer, we see principles for prayer that we can apply to our own prayer time, along with the priorities Jesus had in his heart for believers to prioritize today.

JESUS PRAYS FOR HIMSELF:

¹ After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³ Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. (John 17:1-5)

- JESUS' PRIORITY: to glorify His Father (1a)
 - Jesus worked hard to finish the work the Father gave him.
- PRAYER PRINCIPLE (1a): Use a prayer posture for a purpose
 - Scriptures reveal different physical postures for prayer:
 - Standing (Mark 11:25), Lifting your hands (1 Timothy 2:8), Sitting (Judges 20:26), Kneeling (Acts 9:40), Looking up (John 17:1), Bowing down (Exodus 34:8), Pounding your chest (Luke 18:13), Laying Prostrate (Genesis 17:1-22).
 - The posture of the heart should be humility & submission to God.
- PRAYER PRINCIPLE (1b-5): Include reasons with your prayer request
 - When you pray, tell God why He should answer it.
 - This helps you align your request with God's mission.

JESUS PRAYS FOR THE DISCIPLES:

⁶ "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. ¹³ "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. (John 17:6-19)

- PRAYER PRINCIPLE (6-8): Occasionally, talk with God without making a request
 - Jesus is simply pouring out His heart to His Father.
 - Practice talking with God about what's on your heart.
- JESUS' PRIORITY: to preserve his disciples (11; 15)
 - 2 Peter 2:9, the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials
- JESUS' PRIORITY: to sanctify his disciples (17)
 - Sanctify simply means "to be set apart" (or sacred).
 - God's word shows us how to live differently in His kingdom.
- JESUS' PRIORITY: to send his disciples (18)
 - Jesus was not sent so that we could stay.
 - We are sent to represent Jesus to our: homes, workplaces, neighbors, & nations.

- **PRAYER PRINCIPLE (1-26): Use a pattern to organize your prayer time**
 - Jesus' prayer was organized into 3 categories: himself, the disciples, & the world
 - Try the John 17 pattern:
 - Pray for yourself
 - Pray for those closest to you
 - Pray for the world
 - Try using a prayer list:
 - Determine categories: personal, family, friends, church, world
 - Write down prayer requests in each category
 - Record answers to prayer as well
 - Try praying with variety using an acronym to remind you: I.C.A.S.T.
 - Psalm 55:22, Cast your cares on the Lord...
 - Intercession: pray for other's needs
 - Confession: repent of your sins
 - Adoration: tell God how awesome he is
 - Supplication: pray for your needs
 - Thanksgiving: thank God for what he's doing
 - Try praying through Scripture:
 - This works best in the Psalms
 - Read one verse and pause
 - Pray related to what you just read
 - Repeat

JESUS PRAYS FOR US:

²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. ²⁵ "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." (John 17:20-26)

- **JESUS' PRIORITY: for believers to have UNITY (22-23)**
 - Jesus wants us united to the apostles teaching & to each other.
 - Our unity with one another reflects the unity in the Trinity!
 - The result of unity is the church will be a powerful witness.
- **JESUS' PRIORITY: for believers to be WITH HIM FOREVER (24; 3)**
 - Jesus wants us in heaven because our relationship is real!
 - Eternal life is described as knowing God now & forever.
- **JESUS' PRIORITY: for believers to experience God's LOVE (26)**
 - No matter how much pain we have in life do not forget this.
 - Nothing "*will be able to separate us from the love of God*" (Romans 8:38-39)