

14 *I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 15 I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. 16 They do not belong to this world any more than I do. 17 Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. 18 Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. 19 And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth.*

20 *I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. 21 I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.*

22 *I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. 23 I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. 24 Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am. Then they can see all the glory you gave me because you loved me even before the world began!*

25 *O righteous Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. 26 I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. Then your love for me will be in them, and I will be in them."*

## Work Together to Complete His Mission

March 28/29 , 2009

**One of the most loving and effective things you can do for another human being is to pray for them.**

**James 5:16b** - *The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much* **John 14:13-14, John 15:7-8, John 16:24**

**Unfortunately many of us feel very ineffective in praying for ourselves and others. We struggle with how to pray and praying consistently and meaningfully for ourselves and others. God doesn't want us to feel guilty about how much we pray or how we pray but to learn how to pray effectively. Jesus modeled to us how to pray effectively. **John 17:1-26****

**Q. How did Jesus pray?**

**A. He prayed intimately, reverently, and purposefully. Father—6x's in prayer **Holy Father, Righteous Father****

**John 17:1** - *When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you.*

**John 17:11** - *Now I am departing the world; I am leaving them behind and coming to you. Holy Father, keep them and care for them—all those you have given me—so that they will be united just as we are.*

**John 17:25-26** - *"O righteous Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. And I have revealed you to them and will keep on revealing you. I will do this so that your love for me may be in them and I in them."*

**Q. Who did Jesus pray for?**

**A. 1) Himself first**

**John 17:4-5** - *I brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you told me to do. And now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.*

**2) His chosen disciples**

**John 17:15** - *I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one.*

**3) His future disciples **John 17:19-20****

## Q. What did Jesus pray for?

### A. 1) **Glorify** for His Father through glorifying Him

*John 17:1-2, John 17:4-5* - I brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you told me to do. And now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.

### 2) **Provision** and protection for His disciples *John 17:11, John 17:14-15*

### 3) **Purity** in His disciples by holding to His Word *John 17:17-19*

### 4) **Perfect Unity** among His disciples to reveal Jesus as the Son of God *John 17:20-22*

**We can learn to pray effectively by following Jesus model for prayer here.**

- 1) Pray intimately, reverently and purposefully
- 2) Pray for yourself so you live for His glory and accomplish the good works you were created for
- 3) Pray for others what your Father puts on your heart to pray for them—provision, protection, purity, perfect unity

**We can be an answer to Jesus prayer when we work together in perfect unity to accomplish what He gave us to do on earth.**

*Matthew 28:18-20*

**Working together for His Father's glory is still the cry of His heart today for His church. *John 17:20-21***

## Discussion Questions:

1. Do you ever feel guilty or inadequate when it comes to praying effectively? Is it hard for you to be consistent or to stay focused when praying? Have you been discouraged by unanswered prayer? What prayers has God answered recently in your life?
2. Read through Jesus' Prayer in John 17 together. What strikes you about how Jesus prayed? Do you pray intimately, reverently and purposefully? Who did Jesus pray for and what did He pray for them? Why did He pray that way?
3. What do you pray for most frequently? Who do you pray for? What will change in your prayers having now studied how Jesus prayed? Do you really believe that praying for yourself and others is one of the most loving and powerful things you can do for someone else? Do that now for one another and for those God puts on your heart.

## *John 17 - The Prayer of Jesus*

*After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you. 2 For you have given him authority over everyone. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. 3 And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. 4 I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. 5 Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.*

*6 "I have revealed you to the ones you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7 Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you, 8 for I have passed on to them the message you gave me. They accepted it and know that I came from you, and they believe you sent me.*

*9 "My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. 10 All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory. 11 Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are. 12 During my time here, I protected them by the power of the name you gave me. I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction, as the Scriptures foretold.*

*13 "Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy.*