

## **The High Priestly Prayer of Jesus**

In the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13, which is a great prayer model, Jesus teaches us how to pray like him. We’ve talked about that several times before, therefore, today as we talk about Praying Like Jesus, I want to look at The High Priestly Prayer of Jesus in John 17. At the conclusion of the last supper, Jesus’ actual prayer is written down by the disciple John as he prays.

### **Jesus Prays to Be Glorified**

**John 17:1-5** 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.

Jesus praying to be glorified isn’t a selfish prayer, since Jesus knew that when he was glorified, it would bring glory to the Father. To Pray Like Jesus, maybe our prayer should be more like this...

### **Praying Like Jesus is Asking Father God to Fulfill His Mission and Work Through Us So He Will Be Glorified**

**Matthew 5:16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. **John 15:8** This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

### **Jesus Prays for the Disciples**

**John 17:6-8** “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.

### **Praying Like Jesus is Praying for the Followers of Jesus**

**John 17:9-10** 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.

- **Praying Like Jesus is Praying for the World Too. Those Who Don’t Know Jesus. “I’m not praying for the world.”** Not now, not this time implies Jesus did pray for the world.

### **Praying Like Jesus is Praying for Protection**

**John 17:11-12** 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 (Judas) the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

### **Praying Like Jesus is Praying for Oneness**

**John 17:11b**...so that they may be one as we are one.

We get to see Jesus’ prayers being answered in the book of Acts! (Acts 1:14; 2:1-4; 2:46-47)

**Acts 4:32** All the believers were one in heart and mind...

## **Praying Like Jesus is Praying for Full Joy**

**John 17:13-14** “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.

## **Praying Like Jesus is Praying That Believers Won't Be Deceived Into Worldliness**

**John 17:15-16** 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.

In the world but not of the world. So why did Jesus leave us in the World? 1) To be a light in the darkness. 2) To be Salt to the earth. 3) To carry the word of reconciliation.

## **Praying Like Jesus is Praying for Sanctification. To Live Like Jesus!**

**John 17:17** Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

- Psalm 119:9-16 vs. 11 “Thy word have I hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee.”
- Ephesians 5:25-27 Jesus washes you with the Word, making you holy and blameless.
- Romans 12:1-2 You can be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
- John 8:32 “the truth shall set you free.”
- 2 Peter 1:2-4 We are partakers of a divine nature.
- Hebrews 4:12 The word is a double-edged sword, a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. The sword of spirit, which is the word of God, Ephesians 6:17.
- 2 Timothy 3:16 Rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.

**John 17:18-19** 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.

## **Jesus Prayed for Us, Future Believers**

**John 17:20** “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.

What did Jesus ask in prayer for us? Prosperity, health and healing, success?

What does Jesus really want the Father to give us? Wisdom or maybe knowledge?

**What does Jesus want us to have so much that He asked the Father to give it to us?**

**John 17:21** that all of them may be one... (Oneness! Unity!)

- But to what extent does He want us to be one? Does He just want us to get along?
- To tolerate one another? Maybe He just doesn't want us to gossip about one another?

**John 17:21** that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

**Why did Jesus think that it was so important for you and me, for us, to be one?**

**John 17:21** 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.

## **Praying Like Jesus is Praying for Unity for Ourselves and Future Believers**

- When was the last time you prayed for unity? What priority does unity have on your prayer list?

- Many of us have conceded to the thought that we will never have the kind of unity that Jesus is talking about here.
- But if Jesus' prayer was answered for the Eleven Disciples and the New Testament Church... why can't that prayer be answered for us as well?

What would happen if the world could see the church walking in that kind of unity?

### **Oneness and Unity Through the Power of The Holy Spirit**

**John 17:22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one —**

Jesus has given the glory (Holy Spirit of the living God) that was given to him.

Why? That they may be one and that we may be one. It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to walk in unity so that we can also be in one heart, one mind, and one soul.

### **Why Pray for Complete Unity?**

**John 17:23 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.**

- When we walk in this complete unity, the world will know that God sent Jesus to this world to make a change.
- When we walk in this perfect (KJV) unity, the world will know that we are loved by the Father, just like He loved Jesus.

That's why, as Paul said in **Ephesians 4:3**, we should be “endeavoring (making every effort, being diligent to preserve) to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

### **Praying Like Jesus is Praying That We Love Jesus, Like the Father Loves Him**

**John 17:24-26 “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.”**

### **Pastor's Prayer Partners 2024**

**1) “Pastor's Prayer Partners”.** Today I'm inviting you to sign up to be a Pastor's Prayer Partner, but I only want you to do it if you will be seriously committed to it.

- A. You will commit to pray for your pastors' needs, their families' needs, and your church daily.
- You will pray that God will protect your Pastors physically, morally, mentally, and spiritually.
    - Pastors will update you with specific prayer requests for them and their families.
  - You will pray for Believers Church's health, growth, and protection.
- B. The Pastors will also commit to pray for you daily.
- Write on the card two – three specific things that you want God to do for you this year. No one will see these requests except the pastors.
  - We will pray for you this year as you are praying for us. We will all be partnering in prayer.

**2) “Pastor's Prayer Partner Team”.**

- This team commits to praying for the Pastors and Church daily, as well as every Sunday as this team will pray for the Pastors, the ministry teams, the teachers, and the service in general asking the Holy Spirit to move in the lives of the attendees.
- The team prays 30 minutes prior to the service, 8:30 or 10:30 am in the Next Steps Room. They may also attend one, serve one, and pray during the entire service.

## Pastor's Prayer Partner Commitment Form

Name: / Address: City/ States / Zip: / Birthdate: / Email: / Cell: / Other Phone:

- I commit to pray for my pastors' needs, their families' needs, and my church every day.
- I commit to join a Pastor's Prayer Partner Team in prayer 30 minutes prior to at least two services per month to pray for God to move in the service.
- I commit to attend one, serve one and pray during the entire 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> service once a month.
- I commit to being an active part of corporate prayer meetings at Believers Church.  
*(currently praying Wednesdays 6-6:30 PM in the Sanctuary)*

This year I would like the Pastors to pray for me daily concerning these areas in my life.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_