

The Son of God Prays to Father God

In This Series...

1. We listen as God speaks to God. We see Jesus as equal to the Father and yet distinct from Him.
2. We learn about the heart of prayer. This is not about the “how to” of prayer, but the “want to” of prayer.

Some Background

Jesus has finished teaching and now begins to pray to His Father. Apparently, He allows the disciples to listen as He prays.

Jesus has still not entered the Garden of Gethsemane.

“When He had finished praying, Jesus left with His disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, and He and His disciples went into it.” - John 18:1

The Real Lord's Prayer

The other prayer that is often called “The Lord's Prayer” is sometimes titled “the Disciple's Prayer.” Jesus used it for teaching but could not pray that prayer Himself.

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” - Matthew 6:12

This prayer is the prayer of a victor!

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” - John 16:33

“I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.” - John 17:4

This is, by far, the longest prayer of Jesus recorded in Scriptures and the only prayer of some length to be written down.

The Outline of the Prayer

1. Jesus prays for Himself.
2. Jesus prays for the eleven disciples.
3. Jesus prays for all of those who will believe. (That includes us!)

The Key Words

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Glory – 9 times | 2. Give/Gave – 16 times |
| 3. Father – 6 times | 4. World – 17 times |
| 5. They, them, those – 48 times | 6. I/Me – 54 times |
| 7. Us/our/we – 3 times | |

The Purpose of this Prayer

“After Jesus said this, He looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.” - John 17:1

After Jesus said this ...

Jesus has completed His teaching.

He looked toward heaven and prayed ...

We sometimes worry so much about the posture of prayer. (*knees, hands, head, eyes, posture, etc.*)

There may be a bit of “longing for home” in this look.

“And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.” - John 17:5

Father ...

Jesus taught us to pray to the Father.

Jesus began every prayer by addressing it to the Father.

The time has come ...

“Dear woman, why do you involve me? ... My time has not yet come.” - John 2:4

“Therefore Jesus told them, “The right time for me has not yet come: for you any time is right.” - John 7:6

“At this they tried to seize Him, but no one laid a hand on Him, because His time had not yet come.” - John 7:30

“Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say: ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour.” - John 12:27

All of the world's history has waited for this hour. Jesus had a divine appointment.

“All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast - all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.”

- Revelation 13:8

“...but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.”

- 1 Peter 1:19,20

Glorify your Son ...

Jesus speaks of Himself in the third person. This glory takes place at His death.

“Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.”

- John 12:23,24

That your Son may glorify you.

This is the purpose. Jesus' only desire was to bring glory to His Father.

The Lesson – What is your attitude in prayer? Is it to bring glory to your Heavenly Father?

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