



John 17 - “The Lord’s Prayer”

When we talk about the Lord’s Prayer, we typically mean the **Matthew 6:9-13** passage where it has often been “re-titled” as ‘The Model Prayer.’

The Model Prayer

⁵ “And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your

Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. ⁷ And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

⁸ “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.

Your will be done

On earth as *it is* in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts,

As we forgive our debtors.

¹³ And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from the evil one.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

We get lots of instruction for how to pray from this passage. Let’s discuss a few in the chat.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

However, as a part of the Farewell “Discourse” Jesus has with His disciples in John 13-17 (expanded version), we get a up-close-and-personal view of Jesus’ prayer life that we can learn from as well.

Recall that Jesus is preparing His disciples for His departure and the last part of the discourse we will examine is His powerful prayer to the Father on their behalf. We will see so many evidences of the Oneness of God the Father, Son and Spirit in His prayer. That is potentially confusing because it highlights the differences in the Persons of the Father and the Son, while still pointing to their Oneness at the same time.

I am going to use The Message Translation for our study of this prayer because it will give us a personal touch to this very personal moment in Jesus' ministry.

This reminds me of the interaction with Jesus and Peter in **Luke 22:31-32**:

*And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. **32 But I have prayed for you**, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."*

Just like in Job - that Satan sought permission to subject the believers to intense trials, temptation, to try to destroy their faith. The fact that Jesus prayed for the disciples was EVIDENCE that prayer has power which supersedes the enemy's intentions!!! (DID YOU HEAR THAT in the passage)???

Another detail we will need to understand the content of the prayer – the concept of "Glory."

My "go-to" definition of **glory** = the "splendor, brilliance, or 'magnificence' of God as a characterization of His perfection and excellence. The word glory comes from a Hebrew word (Old Testament Hebrews) that means "weight" or "heaviness" ('kavod'). In Jesus' prayer, He is going to ask the Father to reveal the "weight" or the "heaviness" of what Jesus is actually getting ready to do. I have developed a narrative that may help us understand that glory is something far beyond "prettiness."

Just imagine us repainting/redefining **"beauty"** as the brokenness of the cross (or the beauty of the broken life on the cross) on our behalf? Romans 10:15 (which comes from Isaiah 52:7) says, "beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace." There is probably nothing beautiful (aesthetically) about the feet that are covered in dust, sand and dirt. But what they are doing makes their feet radiant in the sight of others. The beautiful/'brilliant' life (eternal), and condition that the cross affords believers can be associated with the beauty of the end (eternal) condition which is truly brilliant. Perhaps believers can see their own struggles as a kind of participation in the process of that eternal beauty. The light and splendor and brilliance of the perfect process of bloodshed will be shined-upon according to Jesus' prayer. It is a prayer of protection, provision and prosperity (success in their journey) for believers.

Jesus was about to depart from His disciples to complete His mission. He introduced them to their "Helper" (John 14:16, 26) and now intercedes on their behalf – praying for all that they will need to be "successful" along their journey. Let's look at the text to:

1. Discover what their needs will be _____
2. Understand the very process of prayer _____

The Message Translation Jesus' Prayer for His Followers

17¹⁻⁵ Jesus said these things. Then, **raising his eyes in prayer**, he said:

Father, **it's time.**

"Glorify"

**Display the bright splendor of your Son
So the Son in turn may show your bright splendor.**

You put him in charge of everything human so he might give real and eternal life to all in His care.

And this is the real and eternal life:

That they know you,

The one and only true God,

And Jesus Christ, whom you sent.

I glorified you on earth

"shined"-
upon the
perfect work

By completing down to the last detail

What you assigned me to do. And us?

And now, Father, glorify me with your very own splendor,

**The very splendor I had in your presence
Before there was a world.**

* * * **In the beginning was the word and
the word was with God and was God.**

6-12 I spelled out your character in detail

To the men and women you gave me.

They were yours in the first place;

Then you gave them to me, stewardship

And they have now done what you said.

They know now, beyond the shadow of a

Notice that this is a very conversational prayer about the mission entrusted to Jesus.

doubt,

That everything you gave me is **firsthand from you,**

For the message you gave me, I gave them;

And they took it, and were convinced

That I came from you.

They believed that you sent me.

I pray for them.

I'm not praying for the God-rejecting world

But for those you gave me,

For they are yours by right.

Everything mine is yours, and yours mine,

And my life is on display in them. Oneness!

For I'm no longer going to be visible in the world;

They'll continue in the world

While I return to you. Apprentices

Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life Carry out their stewardship on earth

That you conferred as a gift through me,

So they can be one heart and mind

As we are one heart and mind.

As long as I was with them, I guarded them

In the pursuit of the life you gave through me;

I even posted a lookout.

And not one of them got away,

Except for the rebel bent on destruction

The service we get to do for the Lord is a gift.

When you have your own agenda instead of God's???

(the exception that proved the rule of Scripture).

* * *

13-19 **Now I'm returning to you. The Plan!**

I'm saying these things in the world's hearing
So my people can experience
My joy completed in them.

I gave them your word; Instrument of power!

The godless world hated them because of it,

Because they didn't join the world's ways,

Just as I didn't join the world's ways.

I'm not asking that you take them out of the world

But that you guard them from the Evil One.

They are no more defined by the world

Than I am defined by the world.

Make them holy—consecrated—with the truth;

Your word is consecrating truth.

In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world,

I give them a mission in the world. **We are stewards**

I'm consecrating myself for their sakes

So they'll be truth-consecrated in their mission.

* * *

20-23 I'm praying not only for them

But also for those who will believe in me

Because of them and their witness about me.

The goal is for all of them to become one heart and mind—
NOTICE: Evangelism!!! – Ways?
Unity is necessary to do the job!

Just as you, Father, are in me and I in you,

So they might be one heart and mind with us.

Then the world might believe that you, in fact, sent me. **Our unity ministers to others. Implication?**

The same glory you gave me, I gave them,
So they'll be as unified and together as we are—

I in them and you in me. Solidarity!

Then they'll be mature in this oneness,

And give the godless world evidence

That you've sent me and loved them

In the same way you've loved me.

* * *

▲ **Authenticating Jesus.**

Apologetics is not just in a book.

24-26 Father, I want those you gave me

To be with me, right where I am,

So they can see my glory, the splendor you gave me,

Having loved me **Eternal!**

Long before there ever was a world.

Righteous Father, **the world has never known you,**

But I have known you, and these disciples know

That you sent me on this mission.

I have made your very being known to them— **Trinity!**

Who you are and what you do—

And continue to make it known,

So that your love for me

Might be in them

Exactly as I am in them.

APP: When is the last time you had a mission-oriented prayer with the Father (instead of just asking for requests for your living situation)? Remember what was prayed over you before you go out to do the work of the Kingdom. What things can we change in accordance with this prayer that Jesus prayed?