

“Gospel of John: The Lord’s Prayer – Part 2”

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Scripture

John 17:13-26

“But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so **that they may have My joy made full in themselves.**”

"I have given them Your word; and **the world has hated them**, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. "I **do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.** "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”

"**Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.** "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. "For their sakes I sanctify Myself, **that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.**”

"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; **that they may all be one**; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, **that they also may be in Us**, so **that the world may believe that You sent Me.** The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, **that they may be one**, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, **that they may be perfected in unity**, so that **the world may know that You sent Me**, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.”

"Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, **so that they may see My glory** which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”

"O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so **that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**”

Last Week

There are 6 focus areas in the Lord’s prayer

Father Focus	-> His glory
Truth Focus	-> A relationship with the Father and Son leads to eternal life
Son Focus	-> His work
Chosen Focus	-> Jesus prays for His Chosen, the elect
Bible Focus	-> His words
Disciple Focus	-> Always bringing glory to God

God would protect them as they started their ministry as Jesus did when He was on the earth

This Week

The Lord continues to pray for His disciples, their future ministry, and all those who will learn from them

In the last half of the Lord’s prayer, we can see 6 characteristics of the life the Lord wants us to lead

As you listen today, consider if these describe the life you live today!

A Joyful Life

John 17:13

“But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so **that they may have My joy made full in themselves.**”

Jesus wants the disciples and us to have a life filled with JOY -> **purposeful prayer** -> the “so that” pattern begins

This is something He mentioned earlier to them

John 16:23-24

“Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so **that your joy may be made full.**”

In this context, Jesus said that when the Holy Spirit entered their lives, they would have answered prayers

How joyful is it when you know your prayers have been answered?

“these things I speak in the world” – He mentioned this to the Jews before:

John 10:7-10

“Jesus said to them again, "**Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.** "All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.**”

He wants His chosen to have great joy in serving Him and the Father -> **not happiness, but true joy**

Do you have that great joy in your life?

If not, why do you think you are missing it?

Jesus is praying for you to have joy -> if you're not seeing that in your life, come talk to me about it

Next, Jesus prays that the disciples have a separated life:

A Separated Life

John 17:14-16

“I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because **they are not of the world**, even as I am not of the world. "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. "**They are not of the world**, even as I am not of the world.”

“the world has hated them” -> they haven't even really launched into ministry and the world already hated them

They did experience some resistance when Jesus sent them out 2 by 2 earlier

Jesus prepared them for the treatment they would receive

Matthew 10:16-18

“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves. ”But beware of men, for they will hand you over to the courts and scourge you in their synagogues; and you will even be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.”

It was going to be a hard road for them -> so back to Jesus's prayer for them

“I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one” – Protection from Satan

“they are not of the world” -> there are to be different from the world

Do you like how Jesus has to mention this TWICE in His prayer? -> a point He wants them to understand well

“Holy” means to be separate and distinct from the world

Why is the Bible called the “Holy Bible”? -> there is no other book like it in the world

Why is the Father called “Holy Father” by Jesus? -> there is no other One like Him

What did God say about our holiness?

Leviticus 11:44

“I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.”

“To consecrate” means to be “set apart” -> this is what holiness is all about

If you live like the world lives, how does that show Christ in your life?

Peter picked up on this same teaching to his followers:

1 Peter 1:14-16

“As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”

Don't live the way you used to live when you were ignorant of what the Bible says

1 John 2:15-17

“Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.”

Paul also mentioned this to the Corinthians:

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.”

Do you live a life set apart from the world?

If not, why do you still live worldly with the Father, Jesus, Peter, Paul and John all calling you away from it?

Next, Jesus wants them to have a sanctified life:

A Sanctified Life

John 17:17-19

“Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. "For their sakes I sanctify Myself, **that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.**”

You might think that sanctified and holy are the same thing

They are from the same root word, so they are very close

Sanctification, though, is a process -> something that happens over time as we grow in our walk with Christ

Jesus is praying that the disciples will continue to grow spiritually as they launch into ministry

What is the agent by which they will grow? -> yeast in a bread mixture

Jesus says, **“Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth”** -> Where is the truth found?

There are TWO sources of the Truth:

Last week, and earlier in Jesus’s prayer, we discussed an area of focus was the **“Focus on the Truth”**

Verse 3: “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

An intimate relationship with the Father and Jesus grows you spiritually – through “listening” in prayer

The second source we also covered last week, the **“Focus on Jesus’s words”**

Where are Jesus’s words found? -> In the Bible, of course

The Holy Spirit is involved with BOTH of these sources for sanctification

This is why Jesus called Him the teacher within

This is why Jesus said that He would give us the words when we didn't know what to pray for

Some people who go to church regularly do not have the Holy Spirit within them to drive the desire to grow

How focused are you on these two sources for your sanctification right now?

Are you growing spiritually in your life?

If not, why do you think you are stagnant?

If you feel stagnant, get involved -> come to Bible study on Wednesday night -> come to Sunday School

Come ask your pastor how you can grow more spiritually!

Next, Jesus wants the disciples to have a united life:

A United Life

John 17:20-23

"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, **that they may be perfected in unity,** so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me."

This is pretty critical to a group of men that are going to be sent to the ends of the known earth

"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word"

Jesus is not only asking for these initial disciples, though -> He's asking for all believers throughout time

What does Jesus want for us?

"that they may all be one" -> that they will be united in their faith -> **that WE are united in our faith!**

How do you think we are doing with this in our modern world?

Kath and I were traveling in Arkansas -> **1st Baptist Church right across the street from the 1st Southern Baptist**

Doctrine divides, at times, right?

We are to be focused on the truth, but some do not teach the truth of Jesus

Jesus's prayer was all believers to be united around the critical truths of the Gospel

He then cites His relationship with the Father as an example:

“Even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, **so that the world may believe that You sent Me**. The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one”

“**that they may be perfected in unity**” -> this should be our goal, to find common ground in the truth

Unity does not regard ethnicism, skin color, socio-economic status, political preferences as reason for division

Why is unity important to Jesus?

“so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me”

Because disharmony and disunity reflect badly on Him and His ministry -> He says this TWICE

Instead of disunity, what did Jesus command us?

John 13:34-35

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.**”

Love promotes unison not division!

Are you seeking unity and harmony in your life with others?

If not, why are you allowing non-critical differences?

Next, Jesus prays for the disciples' future:

A Hopeful Life

John 17:24

“Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, **be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory** which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine -> Oh what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of Salvation, Purchase of God -> Born of His Spirit, Washed in His blood

“they also, whom You have given Me” -> Jesus prays for His chosen

“**that they may see My glory**” -> to be with Him in glory

“for You loved Me before the foundation of the world” -> Jesus was with the Father in glory before time began

Peter, James, and John got a preview during Jesus's transfiguration

How often do we speak of Heaven and our future with the Lord?

Our Heaven series on Sunday evening, **did that whet your appetite for the coming days in glory?**

We sang, “How I long, to breathe the air of Heaven” earlier today

Are you living a life of hope for the future?

If not, are you so downcast about the future?

Lastly, Jesus wants us to have a life filled with love:

A Life Filled with Love

John 17:25-26

“O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so **that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**”

The love between the Father and the Son is shared by the believer

Knowing the Father and the Son, intimately, reveals that love relationship each day

The believer’s life should not be a cold faith but a warm, loving one

Jesus spoke of a time when love for God would grow cold:

Matthew 24:11-13

“Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. **Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold.** But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.”

Revelation 2:4

“I have this against you, that **you have left your first love.**”

Paul asked for the Thessalonians to pray for Him and, in turn, prayer for them:

2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

“Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you; and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing and will continue to do what we command. **May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ.**”

Do you experience the love of the Father every day?

If not, is it time to build that intimate relationship with Him?

Prayer

Benediction