



Family Conversation Guide

(December 19, 2021)

Followers of Jesus, do you know that Jesus prayed for you? In [John 17](#), he prayed for all of us who would follow Him and serve Him. He is even praying for those of us who are alive today on this earth! **In this week's sermon, we will find out what Jesus prayed for us.**

Read and Discuss

1. David Chadwick says that **Jesus has been called “the High Priest” in other places in the Bible. Why?** (*The high priest annually sacrificed a perfect lamb whose blood was offered for the forgiveness of people's sins for a year. He then would pray for the people after this sacrifice. Jesus is the perfect Lamb of God sacrificed for our sins. As our present High Priest, he now prays for us regularly before the Father in heaven — [Romans 8:34](#).*) Ask Jesus now what you want him to pray for you!
2. In [verse 1](#), Jesus “lifted up His eyes to heaven” and started to pray. (**Do we have to close our eyes when we pray?** Sometimes, look up to heaven when you pray, as Jesus did!) David Chadwick teaches that we need to pray that God's will would be done, that the kingdom of heaven would come to earth. Jesus teaches us to pray this way.
3. Jesus called God His Father. Jesus knew that the time was coming for Him to die on the cross. He knew that God loved Him, and He wanted to talk with Him before He faced what was ahead. **In verses 1-5, what did Jesus ask the Father to do?** (*He asked God to glorify Him as He has glorified God, doing the Father's will while He was on earth. The word “glorify” means “to render a good opinion*

of someone.” Jesus’s life rendered a great opinion of his Father. Jesus hopes that our lives will render a good opinion of him as we body him, as he obeyed the Father).

4. In **verses 6-19**, Jesus prayed for us. He prayed that as we live our lives, we will glorify Him. Read **verse 6. Who gave us to Jesus?** (God did)
5. Read **verses 7,8. What did Jesus give us?** (He gave us the words that God gave Him. Because the followers of Jesus know the truth, we believe in Him) In **verse 9**, Jesus says He is not praying for the world. **Who is He praying for?** (For the ones the Father has given to Him, those who will love Him and will glorify Him—including you and me!)
6. In **verses 9-10**, Jesus says who He is NOT praying for. **Who is that?** (The people of the world who are not His) **Who IS He praying for?** (For the ones God has given Him, because we belong to the Father and to Jesus- we are here to glorify them)
7. Read **verses 11-12**. Jesus knew He would be leaving the world, but we would still be in the world representing Him. While the disciples were with Him, He taught them and guarded them. He made sure that they would stay close to Him, and they all did, except one. **Who was that?** (Judas Iscariot)
8. Jesus knew that He would be leaving, and that His followers would still have to be in the world- that people would hate them and that Satan would tempt them. **What did He ask the Father to do?** (Keep them in the Father’s name, and help them to be unified, to be as one- as Jesus and the Father are one)
9. In **verses 13-16** **what else did Jesus ask the father to give us?** (The joy of Jesus. He knew that the world would hate them, and they would suffer. But, He wanted them to have the joy that comes from knowing Jesus, so that they could persevere and remain strong to the end)

10. In **verses 16-18**, **what is Jesus praying for?** *(That they/we would be sanctified because we know the truth. The world tries to tell us what to think. But, we live IN the world but we are not OF the world. Our minds must be transformed by the renewal of our minds- if we study God's word, believe God's word, and obey God's word, we will have a Biblical worldview. We will know that truth comes from God, not from the world.)*
11. In **verse 19**, **how can we be made holy?** *(Jesus consecrated Himself for us so that we could be sanctified in Him as we know the truth. If we know Jesus and stay in the word, we will remain holy.)*

Family Challenge:

1. Jesus prayed for us. **How does that make you feel?**
2. Jesus wanted believers to glorify Him with our lives, and He wants believers to stay close to each other (to be unified) **Is it important for us to stay close to each other? How can we do that?** *(Studying God's word together, praying for each other, loving each other)*
3. In January, we will start reading through the Bible together as a family. The whole church will be doing this. *(If you have bought an Action Bible for your kids or teens, this may be a good time to give it to them.)*
4. **How can you keep your body strong?** *(Exercise, eating the right foods, etc.)*
5. **How can we keep our minds strong so that we can be strong believers in this world?** *(Staying in the word, praying together, doing God's will in this world)*

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for praying for us. Help us to stay close to you and to know the truth. Help us to go into the world and shine your light. We love you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

For Younger Kids or for the Whole Family:

Help your child **make a star ornament** using glitter and glue. Talk about ways they can **shine Jesus' love and light** into the world!