

(Jn 17:20–26)

INTRO

John 17 is Jesus' High Priestly Prayer

This prayer of Jesus is the cap of His farewell address to His disciples

The cross is looming, only hours away

We've seen Jesus pray often – on mountains, at Lazarus' tomb, teaching His disciples.

In all of the Bible, nowhere is documented Jesus praying in this much detail and length.

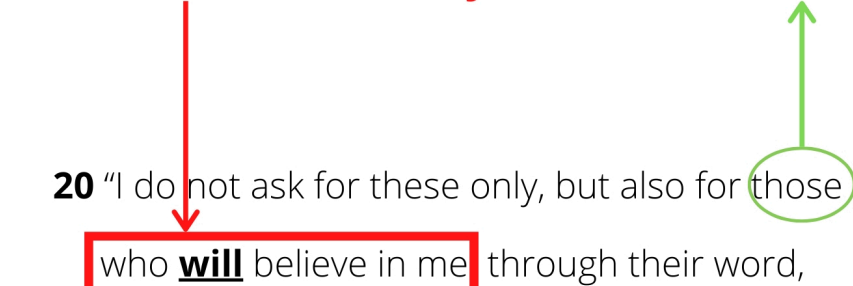
"If I could hear Christ praying for me in the next room, I would not fear a million enemies. Yet distance makes no difference. He is praying for me." Robert M'Cheyne.

Who is "those" Jesus is praying for?

20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those **who will believe in me** through their word,

WHO ARE "THOSE" THAT JESUS IS PRAYING FOR?

20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those
who **will** believe in me through their word,



How will we believe in Jesus?

20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,

HOW WILL WE BELIEVE IN JESUS?

20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through **their** word,

-
- There is an implicit expectation from Jesus for disciples to make disciples. He makes it explicit in the Great Commission.

What does Jesus pray for us?

21 that they may all **be one**, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us...22 that they may **be one** even as we are one, 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, **may be with me** where I am, to **see my glory**... 26 that the **love with which you have loved me may be in them,**

WHAT DOES JESUS PRAY FOR US?

21 that they may all **be one**, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us...**22** that they may **be one** even as we are one, **24** Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may **be with me** where I am, to **see my glory...** **26** that the **love** with which you have **loved** me may be in them

Jesus prays 4 things for us:

1. To Have Unity
2. To Enter Eternity
3. To Behold Glory
4. To Be Loved

1. Jesus prays for us to have UNITY.

What is the model for this unity?

21 that they may all be one, just 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 have sent me.... **23** I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one...

- The Trinity is the model – perfect harmony, glory, love, and unity.
- Similarly to marriage – distinct people with different roles, but one in unity.
- Rambo
- Jesus isn't a drive in movie.
- We travel and sacrifice for work and vacations, but when it comes to community its too hard.

What is the source of this unity?

*22 The **glory** that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,*

Ps 133:1–3 *Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!*

2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! 3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

- “There is every reason why believers should love one another and live in unity. We trust the same Saviour and share the same glory. We will one day enjoy the same heaven! We belong to the same Father and seek to do the same work, witnessing to a lost world that Jesus Christ alone saves from sin. We believe the same truth, even though we may have different views of minor doctrinal matters; and we follow the same example that Jesus set for His people, to live a holy life. Yes, believers do have their differences; but we have much more in common, and this should encourage us to love one another and promote true spiritual unity,” Warren Wiersbe.

UNITY: to what end?

23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

- The early Latin writer, Tertullian of Carthage, declared that the one thing that converted him to Christianity was not the arguments they gave him, because he could find a counterpoint for every argument they would present. “But they demonstrated something I didn’t have. The thing that converted me to Christianity was the way they loved each other,” Tertullian.

What else does Jesus pray for us?

24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

2. Enter Eternity

3. Behold Glory

(Jn 12:41) *Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.*

(Is 6:1–8) *In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. 2 Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called to another and said:*

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”*

4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. 5 And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" n Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. 7 And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."
8 And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

25 O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me.

What else does Jesus pray for?

26 I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

4. Be Loved

- God knows everything about you, yet you are still the object of His love.
- He has forgiven you past, present, and future sins.

Rom 37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.