

## Jesus Pray for His disciples – John 17 v 6 - 19

WHAT DO WE PRAY? – WHEN WE PRAY FOR OURSELVES, FAMILY, CHILDREN, LIFEGROUP, CHURCH, SCHOOL, WORK COLLEAGUES

- TRUST THAT TODAY’S MESSAGE WILL DIRECT YOUR PRAYERS
- What defines a disciple of Jesus?
- What did Jesus pray for His disciples?

**Read whole passage: John 17 v 6 - 19**

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**JESUS MANIFESTED (DISPLAYED, REVEALED, LIVED OUT) – GOD’S NAME**

**John 17 v 6: “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me,.....**

- NAME = PERSON, CHARACTER & NATURE
- Love, goodness, righteousness, grace, holiness
- Disciples experienced 1<sup>st</sup> hand the Father, through Jesus
- Only as we see the Father at work in Jesus, do we get a proper revelation of the Father.

**John 14 v 8:** Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father**; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.

**BELIEVERS TODAY:** similar call & responsibility - **MANIFEST THE FATHER & JESUS**

- V18: As You sent Me (*Jesus*) into the world, I also have sent them into the world.....
- We are called to be witnesses to Jesus (Acts 1 v 8)

**2 Corinthians 3 v 2 – Paul says we are living letters, read by the world:** You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; <sup>3</sup>clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, *that is*, of the heart.

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**WHAT DEFINES A DISCIPLE?**

**John 17 v 6 – continues:.....and they have kept Your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. <sup>8</sup> For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.**

## TWO THINGS MENTIONED ABOUT THE DISCIPLES IN THIS PASSAGE:

### 1) GOD'S WORD - RECEIVED IT & KEPT IT

- Had failures and faults, BUT they kept God's word.
- Believed & Obeyed

**Matthew 28 v 18 – great commission:** “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make **disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

**John 15 v 14:** You are My friends if you **do whatever I command you.**

**John 14 v 15:** “If you love Me, **keep My commandments.**”

**1 John 2 v 3:** Now by this we know that we know Him, if we **keep His commandments.** <sup>4</sup> He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. <sup>5</sup> But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. <sup>6</sup> He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

### 2) THEY KNEW & BELIEVED THAT JESUS WAS DIVINE - WAS GOD, LIKE GOD, SEND BY GOD

**Matthew 16 v 15:** He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered and said, “**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**”<sup>17</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and **on this rock I will build My church,**.....

**John 1 v 1 – John's revelation of Jesus:** **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> **All things were made through Him,** and without Him nothing was made that was made. <sup>4</sup> **In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.**

**John 6 v 66:** From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. <sup>67</sup> Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” <sup>68</sup> But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the **words of eternal life.** <sup>69</sup> Also we have come to **believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**”

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## JESUS DIRECTS HIS PRAYER – FOCUS ON HIS DISCIPLES

<sup>9</sup> **I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours.** <sup>10</sup> **And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them.**

- Jesus is interceding for His disciples (You are now His disciple! He intercedes for you)

**Romans 8 v 34:** (*Jesus is*) - **at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.**

**Hebrews 7 v 25:** But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. <sup>25</sup>Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since **He always lives to make intercession for them.**

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## WHAT DID JESUS PRAY FOR THE DISCIPLES?

### 1<sup>ST</sup> REQUEST: KEEP THEM

<sup>11</sup>Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, **keep through Your name** those whom You have given Me, that **they may be one as We are.** <sup>12</sup>While I was with them in the world, **I kept them** in Your name. Those whom You gave Me **I have kept**; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

- We need to be kept to: CONTINUE AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS
- Kept through the POWER & AUTHORITY of Jesus
- Once a teacher (rabbi) was away or dead - people couldn't be his disciple any longer.
- Now Jesus was going away – He pray – FATHER KEEP THEM.
  
- A live of faith cannot be sustained by our own efforts (works)
- World, our flesh, satan, sin, always seducing us away from God
- Pride, hypocrisy, offense, division – so easily creeps into our lives
- If we stay with Jesus, it is because He prayed for us “Father keep them.”

Habakkuk 2 v 4: **FAITHFULNESS – KEEPING ON HAVING FAITH** (quoted in: Rom 1 v 17; Gal 2 v 11; Heb 10 v38): “The just shall live by faith.”

### 1) KEEP THEM – continue - IN UNITY

- Believers should be one in Christ (one faith, spirit, heart, purpose, destiny)
- We should all be like the Lord Jesus, together we are His body

**Psalm 133 v 1, 3:** Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* For **brethren to dwell together in unity!** .....For there the LORD commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.

<sup>13</sup>But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

### 2) KEEP THEM – continue - IN JOY

Jesus' joy was rooted in:

- unbroken fellowship with God His Father.
- true faith and confidence in His Father.

- seeing the great things God had done.
- not diminished by His own sin (Jesus had no sin)
- not diminished by deception.
- not diminished by allowing satan into His live

**Nehemiah 8 v 10:** .....the joy of the Lord is your strength.....

<sup>14</sup> I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because **they are not of the world**, just as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> **I do not pray that You should take them out of the world**, but that You should **keep them from the evil one**. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

I HAVE GIVEN THEM YOUR WORD, AND THE WORLD HAS HATED THEM.

- The full revelation of the Father as manifested in the words, acts and nature of Jesus.
- The world hates Jesus in us

THEY ARE NOT OF THE WORLD

- Mind-set of the world = hostility towards God. Enemy of God.

I DO NOT PRAY THAT YOU SHOULD TAKE THEM OUT OF THIS WORLD

- World is where we are to grow in faith, maturity, holiness & do our work, witness

**Phillipians 1 v 21 – Paul:** For to me, to **live is Christ, and to die is gain**. <sup>22</sup> But if I live on in the flesh, this *will mean* fruit from *my* labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a **desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better**. <sup>24</sup> Nevertheless to **remain in the flesh is more needful for you**. <sup>25</sup> And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith, <sup>26</sup> that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.

**Matthew 5 v 14:** “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. <sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

### **3) KEEP THEM – FROM THE EVIL ONE**

**1 John 5 v 19:** .... the whole world lies *under the sway of* the wicked one.

**1 Peter 5 v 8:** ..... your adversary the devil walks about like a **roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour**.

**Matthew 6 v 13 – The Lords Prayer:**.... But **deliver us from the evil one**.

- Keep us from evil of: schemes of satan, Apostasy, worldliness, unholiness.

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**2<sup>ND</sup> REQUEST: SANCTIFY THEM**

**17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**

SANCTIFY = SET APART & DEVOTED TO GOD – for God’s pleasure and purpose

Jesus didn’t leave us to sanctify ourselves. He prayed that God will work in us and through us

THE WORD OF GOD IS TRUTH

**Psalm 119 v 160:** ..... The entirety of **Your word is truth**....

TRUTH (the WORD) SANCTIFY US

- TRUTH (the Word) - SET US APART FROM THE WORLD
- TRUTH (the Word) - DEVOTE US TO GOD
- Read, understand, apply (obey)
- The more truth we believe & apply the more sanctified we will be.
- Word of God separates us from the world

**Hebrews 4 v 11:** For the **word of God is** living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

.....

**18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.**

- Jesus did not originate His own mission, He came in obedience to His Father will.
- John 3 v 16: For God so loved the world that He send Jesus.....

AS YOU SENT ME INTO THE WORLD, I ALSO SEND THEM

- We are set apart for God’s service and mission
- Jesus sends us into the world, to witness to it, to be messengers for Him
- To manifest Him so that the world can read us and come to the saving knowledge of Jesus.

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**AMEN**

