

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE

JULY 1ST-2ND, 2023 // GOSPEL OF JOHN

GLORIFY (JOHN 17:1-5) THE (TRUE) LORD'S PRAYER

We often call the "Our Father" prayer the Lord's Prayer, but it's really the Lord's model prayer. In the model prayer, Jesus gives us the broad categories in which to pray. John records and shares Jesus at prayer.

- Throughout His ministry, Jesus taught and modeled the importance of prayer.

WE REALLY TALK TO GOD

Jesus assumed the common posture of prayer for His time ("looked up to heaven"). The Bible records multiple postures for prayer. But there is only one we address...God.

- We pray to the Father through the Son (the Word) by the Spirit. **God-saturated prayers ensure praying in His name.**

IT'S TIME

All human history had been building up to this moment, the "hour" in which Jesus would be falsely arrested, falsely tried, physically brutalized, and humiliated on a criminal's cross, all for the glory of God and the good of His people.

- While we were His enemies, Jesus died.

WHAT IS GLORY? HOW DO WE GLORIFY GOD?

When God's attributes and character are on display so that He is seen as the only one worthy to be desired, worshipped, and obeyed, He is glorified.

- God's attributes and character are always on display, **but especially when we look to Jesus' finished work of salvation.**

GLORY FROM AND IN SUFFERING?

Jesus makes clear that He will be glorified from and in His suffering. Not only will He be glorified but so will the Father. Why? Because "God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

ONE WAY TO ETERNAL LIFE

The most loving thing God can do is be **truthful** to show us the **way** to eternal life (John 14:6). We receive eternal **life** by knowing the one true God through His Son. **There is no other way! It is finished!**

- We don't add to (works) or take away (minimize) from Jesus' completed work.

TOUCH THE GLORY, LOSE THE POWER

God has glorified Jesus by giving Him authority over everything, including salvation. On earth, Jesus' heavenly glory was veiled. A day is coming when all will see the undeniable glory of the Son of God. Many will love it; others will hate it.

- **The glory is His; we only display it.**

THE WORK (JOHN 17:6-19)

HEAR, BELIEVE, KEEP

The truth about God and how people are saved comes through revelation, which means people don't find truth, but truth is revealed to people who continuously share it with others.

- We have a simple job: make disciples (hear the Word), baptize them (believe the Word), teach them (keep the Word).

SIMPLE, NOT EASY

Conviction that God's Word is true fuels the work of making disciples. The disciples received the revelation of the gospel and believed Jesus is God the Son. Those who didn't believe this truth hated the disciples, which meant they would live out their lives in constant conflict.

LEFT BEHIND BUT NEVER ALONE

Jesus is about to die, be raised, and go back to the Father 40 days after His resurrection. But the disciples won't be left alone because Jesus is sending the Holy Spirit to help them as they face the backlash of living for Jesus.

- Protection doesn't mean the absence of conflict but **joy and peace in the conflict.**

FAITHFUL TO THE END

Jesus was faithful to His disciples to the end. Nothing could separate them from His love, protection, and preservation except their own faithlessness. Judas proved to be faithless and not truly belonging to Jesus.

- Judas is a warning: **Proximity to Jesus doesn't guarantee saving faith.**

SENT ONES

Jesus was sent by the Father and now He is sending His disciples into the world that they might proclaim the gospel in the face of satanic opposition and cultural conflict.

- **We must recognize our need for courage and strength as we battle against lies for the sake of saving truth.**

PREPARED FOR BATTLE

The disciples remained in the world but weren't to be conformed to it (Romans 12:2). To grow in non-conformity to the world (sanctification) requires the Spirit and the Word (the Bible).

- **We love the people of this world but not the culture opposed to God's truths.**

SATISFIED (JOHN 17:20-26)

THE NEVER-ENDING STORY

Jesus is Lord over all things, including the future. He knows how long all this will continue until He returns. Which means He knows billions will be born who need to hear the good news of His gospel.

- This story is "too good to keep to ourselves." **We joyfully share with others.**

WHAT WE SAY AND HOW WE LIVE

Being in Christ completely changes lives. It's impossible for followers of Jesus to be **with** Him and not be changed **by** him because He satisfies us. Priorities change. Relationships change. Desires and passions change.

- **Not only will we see the changes He's making, but so will others.**

IT MUST BE BECAUSE OF JESUS

The multi-national, multi-ethnic community of Jesus glorifies Him through unity, not uniformity. **Only Jesus can do this!**

- We focus on majors and we discuss minors. We may disagree over minors, but we won't let minors separate us because **too many people need Jesus!**

WHAT MAKES HEAVEN HEAVEN?

The focus of Heaven is the glory of God on full display in Jesus. Jesus is the treasure humanity is seeking, the love humanity needs, the approval humanity desires.

- **Every human desire that has been corrupted by the devil and the world is satisfied in and by Jesus.**

SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND

Jesus gave the gospel of the Kingdom to His disciples who started a fire that continues to change the world one life at a time.

- **Most of us don't need more convincing. We need to humble ourselves, turn from our sins, and trust in all Jesus has done for us.**

GLORIFYING JESUS

- Do we pray to Jesus, acknowledging our need for Him?
- **Are we allowing Jesus to change us daily?**
- What impact do sufferings and hardships make on our trust in Jesus?
- **Do we shrink back from proclaiming Jesus as the only way to God?**

WORKING FOR JESUS

- Are we making disciples, baptizing them, and teaching them?
- **Sharing our stories of how Jesus changed our lives gives amazing evidence supporting the truth of the gospel.**
- Do we daily count the cost of following Jesus?

SATISFIED IN JESUS

- How does Jesus' love for us and our love for Him change how we live?
- Are we so focused on the goodness and beauty of Jesus that minors fade and unity prevails?
- **If we're anxious and discontent, is it because we're looking everywhere but to Jesus?**