

Theme: Jesus is the true man of prayer, showing us both the necessity of prayer and how we should pray.

I. Intro – Learning To Pray - Memory Verse

- A. BRCC focal point - Growing As A Community of Prayer
- B. Best way to learn is to be with those who are masters
- C. We looked at Psalms - biggest collection of prayers
- D. We will look at the Lord's Prayer later this year
- E. But now we will look at John 17
 - 1. It is Jesus' longest prayer in Scripture
 - 2. It is prayed in the shadow of the Cross
 - 3. Shows the concerns which dominated Jesus' prayer
 - 4. We can learn much about prayer from John 17
- F. Today we begin with a look at the prayer life of Jesus

II. Jesus - The Man of Prayer

- A. After Jesus said this - the context of Jesus' prayer

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. John 17:1

 - 1. With these words John reminds us of the context
 - 2. Context - night Jesus was betrayed (John 13-16)
 - 3. Immediate context - end of Upper Room Discourse
"You believe at last!" Jesus answered. ³² "But a time is coming, and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with

me. ³³ "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:31–33

- a. Jesus predicts the apostles will abandon Him
- b. But He is never alone - the Father always with Him
 - 1. This awareness undergirds real prayer
 - 2. We must know the Father never abandons us
- c. This is critical, for in this world we have trouble
 - d. But Jesus has overcome the world - for us!
- 4. It is the time (literally hour) of Jesus' betrayal & death
After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, **the time has come**. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. John 17:1
- B. He looked toward heaven and prayed - Jesus prays!
After Jesus said this, **he looked toward heaven and prayed**: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. John 17:1
 - 1. In this dire hour - Jesus prays
 - 2. He did not write letters, organize picket - He prayed
 - 3. Is prayer my first option - or last resort?
- C. Jesus - the Man of Prayer
 - 1. Jesus did not begin to pray at this moment
 - 2. He lived a life of prayer
 - 3. Jesus' prayer life in Scripture

That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³ The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. ³⁵ **Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.** ³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!” Mark 1:32–37

- a. Jesus had been up late the night before
- b. People were clamoring for Jesus’ attention
- c. But Jesus gave His attention prayer - first thing

One of those days **Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.** ¹³ When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles... Luke 6:12–13

- a. Momentous decision - who would be the 12 apostles
- b. Jesus prepares - by praying all night!
- c. He got alone - to focus entirely on prayer
- d. He prayed all night - used to regular prayer

After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” ¹⁵ **Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.** John 6:14–15

Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he

dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶ **After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.** Mark 6:45–46

- a. Jesus had just fed the 5,000
- b. They like it - and want to make Him King!
- c. A real temptation for Jesus - Kingship without cross
- d. Jesus flees the temptation - to pray (Mark 6)

Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.” ⁴¹ **He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed,** ⁴² “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” ⁴³ An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. ⁴⁴ **And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.** ⁴⁵ When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. ⁴⁶ **“Why are you sleeping?” he asked them. “Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”** Luke 22:39–46

- a. Jesus in shadow of the cross - bearing sins of world
 - b. What does He do? He prays!
 - c. This is intense prayer - agony (literal), sweating
 - d. In moment of temptation - run to God in prayer
 - e. Could I describe my prayers like this?
4. Truly Jesus is the man of prayer!

III. The Surprise of Jesus’ Prayer Life

- A. Consider Jesus - God in the flesh, 2nd Person in Trinity
 - 1. He teaches authoritatively (Matthew 5-7, 7:28-29)

2. He speaks healing (Matthew 8:1-12)
3. He controls the weather (Matthew 14:22-33)
4. He drives out demons with a word (Mark 1:23-26)
5. He is Lord of the Sabbath (Mark 2:28)
6. He forgives sins (Matthew 9:6)
7. He is the Creator (John 1:3; Hebrews 1:10-12; Colossians 1:15-16)
8. He holds all things together (Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:3)
9. He is God in flesh (John 1:1-3, 14; Hebrews 1:8)

B. Consider how much Jesus depended on God in prayer!

1. Jesus the God-Man recognized His utter dependence on God the Father
2. When making decisions - He prays for wisdom
3. When tired - He communes with Father in prayer
4. When tempted with power & pride - prays to God
5. When tempted to take easy way - prays to God

IV. Applying the Word

A. Do I pray like Jesus?

1. Jesus is the God-Man - 2nd Person of Trinity
2. Yet, Jesus is the true Man of Prayer
3. Do I pray like Jesus - in every circumstance of life?

4. When faced with decision - do I pray first & last?
5. When tired do I commune with God in prayer - or watch TV?
6. When tempted - do I run to God or temptation?

B. Gospel praying

1. This is not a guilt inducing "You don't pray enough!"
2. It is a reminder that God is open to us
3. It is a reminder of how much we need God
4. It is a reminder that through the Gospel we have open access to pray - just like Jesus

C. Closing prayer

Praying Like Jesus

John 17:1
 June 9, 2013
 Prayer
 2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 2 Corinthians 13:14

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