

John 17:1-26... *After Jesus said this, He looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son may glorify You. ² For You granted Him authority over all people that He might give eternal life to all those You have given Him. ³ Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent. ⁴ I have brought You glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify Me in Your presence with the glory I had with You before the world began. ⁶ “I have revealed You to those whom You gave Me out of the world. They were Yours; You gave them to Me and they have obeyed Your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything You have given Me comes from You. ⁸ For I gave them the words You gave Me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from You, and they believed that You sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those You have given Me, for they are Yours. ¹⁰ All I have is Yours, and all You have is mine. And glory has come to Me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name You gave Me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. ¹³ “I am coming to You now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of My joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them Your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that You take them out of the world but that You protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth. ¹⁸ As You sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify Myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. ²⁰ “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in Me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me. ²² I have given them the glory that You gave Me, that they may be one as We are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me. ²⁴ “Father, I want those You have given Me to be with Me where I am, and to see My glory, the glory You have given Me because You loved Me before the creation of the world. ²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know You, I know You, and they know that You have sent Me. ²⁶ I have made You known to them and will continue to make You known in order that the love You have for Me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.” (NIV)*

The Longest prayer

Story of the little boy and his family at mealtime. Papa, zach Amen. (Say Amen) story.

The Greatest Prayer

“In the first five verses the word glory or glorify is used five times. That is, prayer is wrapped up in the glory of God. Do you, if you just take prayer and analyze it, that’s what prayer is all about, it is giving glory to God. Jesus taught us this when He taught us to pray, “Our Father which art in heaven hallowed be thy name.” Now when we begin to pray more with the glory of God in mind, our prayer life is going to be more like the prayer life of the Lord Jesus, God is going to be glorified. Now, let’s just pause here on this part and think for a moment about the purpose of prayer.

The purpose of prayer is that we might do what God would have use to do and that we might finish the work that God gave us to do (His will).

And therefore God will be glorified. The most important thing that you could say or that I could say ever when we come to die is just simply this. I did what God gave me to do. Isn’t that true? What could be greater than that? Just to simply say I have finished the work that God has given me to do. Nothing is more important than that. **Now, what does it take in order to be able to say that?**

- Number one, knowledge of what God wants you to do.
- Number two, power to do it.

“There are about four categories of persons when it comes to Prayer & the Will of God.” (Adrian Rogers)

Number One: There are those who are indifferent or distracted...like pouring water on a rock. There's really no consistent and passionate concern about knowing the will of God. Many Christians are just distracted. W. Herschel Ford in his book of John tells a story about a preacher and his dream. “One night a preacher dreamed he was hitched to a wagon, pulling it along, with all the church members pushing. After awhile he came to a rough place in the road and could hardly pull the wagon. He looked around and found the members had not only quit pushing, but they were sitting in the wagon and criticizing the pastor for not going any faster”. (P. 130)

Number Two: Those who are rebellious. You just simply say, “I’m not going to do it. I, I don’t want to know the will of God.” That’s perhaps worse than indifference. It is sheer hostility.

Number Three: These are those who might want to know the will of God, but they’re unaware or ignorant. They don’t know how to do it. They are floundering around without, like a ship without a mast, a sail, a rudder on a dark and stormy night and no compass.

Number Four: Those who are victorious.

They are finding and doing the will of God because they have discovered the principle that I want to give you. Now John 17, as you know, is the true Lord’s Prayer. The prayer that begins, “Our Father,” is not the Lord’s Prayer. Ah, Jesus never prayed that prayer for Himself. Can you imagine Jesus praying, “Father, forgive me my trespasses?” That’s a model prayer. That’s a prayer for us. In John chapter 17 we find the prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is truly the Lord’s prayer. Now in knowing the will of God we’re going to look into this prayer, we’re going to eavesdrop on this prayer, and we’re going to find...

Three things about Prayer and Knowing the Will of God, and they all center in the Lord Jesus Christ. (A. Rogers)

1. **Jesus Gives Us The Pattern of Prayer**
2. **Jesus Reveals To Us The Purpose of Prayer**
3. **Jesus Shows Us The Power of Prayer**

It’s all centered on Jesus. He is the pattern, He is the purpose, and He is the power”.

1. **Jesus Gives Us The Pattern of Prayer**

John 17:1... *After Jesus said this, He looked toward heaven and prayed:*

- We must realize that our source of strength and victory come when we look to God.
- Jesus reaffirms for us a total dependence on God is necessary

2. **Jesus Reveals To Us The Purpose of Prayer**

➤ **To Glorify Jesus and the Father**

John 17:1... *After Jesus said this, He looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son may glorify You.*

➤ **To Know God and to Receive Eternal Life**

John 17:2,3... ² For You granted Him authority over all people that He might give eternal life to all those You have given Him. ³ Now this is eternal life: that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent.

➤ **To Accomplish God's Will**

John 17:4... *I have brought You glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do.*

“God has a purpose for you, as He had a purpose for His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:10: *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”*

Did you know that God has a, a plan for you? God has a work for you to finish? There's been a story written for you. How would you like to come to the end of the trail and say, “Father, I've finished the work You gave me to do?” Wouldn't that be great? “I've finished the work You gave me to do.” You have but one responsibility, and that is to trust in the Lord with all your heart. **Pro. 3:5,6...** *“Lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.”* (Adrian Rogers)

When you do God's will, you glorify God. And, so the purpose of this prayer – it was not a selfish prayer. It was a personal prayer, but not a, a selfish prayer. As a matter of fact, if you take the first five verses and read them, you'll find the word glorify or glory used, five times, ah, in the first five verses. What the Lord Jesus Christ is concerned about here is the glory of God. This is always the first concern in prayer if it is effective prayer, praying like Jesus prayed. (A. Rogers)

➤ **To Bring About Unity**

John 17:10-12...¹⁰ *All I have is Yours, and all You have is mine. And glory has come to Me through them.* ¹¹ *I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one.*

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²² *I have given them the glory that You gave Me, that they may be one as We are one—* ²³ *I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.*

3. Jesus Shows Us The Power of Prayer

➤ **Power to Protect Us:**

John 17:10-12...¹⁰ *Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one.* ¹² *While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name You gave Me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.*

➤ **Power to Sustain Us**

John 17:14-17...¹⁴ *I have given them Your Word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.* ¹⁵ *My prayer is not that You take them out of the world but that You protect them from the evil one.* ¹⁶ *They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.* ¹⁷ *Sanctify them by the truth; Your Word is truth.*

➤ **Power to Share Jesus to All The World**

John 17:18-21...¹⁸ *As You sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.* ¹⁹ *For them I sanctify Myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.* ²⁰ *“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in Me through their message,* ²¹ *that all of them may be one, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me.*

**The Take Away is that God has given us a gift in prayer.
He is praying for us; He desires for us to pray for others**

Hebrews 7:24,25... ²⁴ but because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.

Colossians 1:9,10... ⁹ For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His Will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God.

Somebody's Praying

**Somebody's praying I can feel it
Somebody's praying for me,
Mighty hands are guiding me
To protect me from what I can't see
Lord I believe, Lord I believe, Somebody's praying for me.**

**Angels are watching, I can feel them
Angels are watching over me,
There's many miles 'till I get home
Still I'm safely kept before Your throne
Lord I believe, Lord I believe. Angels are watching over me.**

**Well I've walked barren wilderness
Where my pillow was a stone
And I've been through the darkest caverns
Where no light had ever shone
Still I went on 'cause there was someone
Who was down on their knees
And Lord I thank you for those people
Praying all this time for me.**

**Somebody's praying I can feel it
Somebody's praying for me,
Mighty hands are guiding me
To protect me from what I can't see
Lord I believe, Lord I believe, Somebody's praying for me.
Somebody's praying for me.**