

# Lord, Teach Us to Pray

## *The Lord's Prayer*

(John 17:1-26)

- Introduction:
1. When I study the topic of prayer, I often find myself being corrected by Scripture.
  2. I find I have some preferences and opinions about prayer that get corrected.
    - a. Don't use prayer for announcements.
    - b. Don't repeat "forgive us" – However we repeat other phrases.
    - b. Don't quote Scripture to God – However, early church did (Acts 4:24-26).
    - c. Don't preach while praying – However, Jesus did (John 11:42).
  3. Let's examine the third longest prayer in the Bible.
    - a. Nehemiah – (Nehemiah 9:5-38) 1213 words.
    - b. Solomon – (1 Kings 8:23-53) 1079 words.
    - c. Jesus – (John 17:1-26) 636 words.

### I. Jesus Prayed for Himself

- A. (John 17:1-5).
- B. The first thing I noticed when studying for this lesson is that his prayer for himself is shorter than his prayer for others.
  1. Do we make enough intercession for each other?
  2. If not, why not?
- C. **Request** – Glorify me so that I may glorify you (John 17:1).
- D. Give eternal life? (John 17:2; John 6:44-45).
- E. What is eternal life? (John 17:3) to "know" or have a relationship with God the Father and Jesus.
- F. I have finished the work – it was as good as done (Revelation 13:8).

### II. Jesus Prayed for His Apostles

- A. Jesus' identity is confirmed among the apostles (John 17:6-8).
  1. (John 1:50) You will see greater things than these.
  2. (Mark 4:41) who can this be, for even the wind and sea obey him.
- B. **Request** – Keep them (John 17:11,15).
- C. Being kept by God results in unity (John 17:11).
- D. Jesus wasn't praying for the world in this context and states so (John 17:9).
- E. Judas was lost – (John 17:12)
- F. Request – Sanctify them (John 17:17).
  1. Sanctification comes through God's word, not experience (John 17:17).

### III. **Jesus Prayed for Us**

- A. (John 17:20-26).
- B. **Request** – That we be one (John 17:21).
- C. Our unity, or lack thereof, affects the world (John 17:21,23).
- D. **Request** – They may be with me (John 17:24).
  - 1. (Hebrews 12:2) The joy set before him.

- Conclusion:
- 1. I find it amazing that Jesus prayed for us 2000 years ago.
  - 2. In fact, he is still making intercession and mediation for us today (Romans 8:34; 1 Timothy 2:5).