

Jesus Prays - March 14

Parents: Psychology studies show praying together as a family strengthens marriages, unites family members, and boosts decision-making and health. What an encouragement to pray together everyday! Let's take a look in the New Testament book of John, to see how Jesus prayed for His disciples and all believers.



Read: John 17:13-23

Jesus Prays for His Disciples and All Believers

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[d] 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.

Discuss: Jesus prayed to God, the Father, for His disciples and all believers before He went to the cross. He knew that they would have trouble in this world. Did He ask that they be taken out of the world? *No.* He prayed that His disciples would be p_____ (*protected*) from the evil one while they shared the Good News of Jesus.

It's hard to be in the world yet live differently as we follow and share about Jesus. In fact, we can't do it all on our own. Jesus knew we needed help; He prayed for the disciples and all those that b_____ (*believe*) in Him through their message.

When Jesus died on the cross He washed us clean which means our sins are forgiven. Why would He do that? *Jesus loves us. Let's remember John 3:16, "16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

Jesus is the Son and God is the Father; are they one? *Yes. They are. In fact, Jesus, God, and the Holy Spirit are the Trinity. That means one God in three persons.*

If Jesus prayed, do you think we should pray? *Yes, most definitely!* What should we pray for? *Everything! We can pray for ourselves and for others throughout the day.*

Key Point: Jesus Prays for All

Jesus Prays (Tap finger in center of opposite palm, then place both hands together in prayer)
For All (Point to self and then others in the room)

Family Activity: Utilize the attached sheet to make a prayer list to encourage and remind your family to be intentional about praying and praising God throughout the day.

Prayer: Dear God, We praise You for the Bible and what we learn from reading it. We're grateful You sent Jesus to teach, lead, and save us. Help us pray for ourselves and others throughout the day. We thank and love You. Amen.

Next Steps: Memorize John 17:20 - "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,"

A.C.T.S. Prayer

How to Pray:

A= ADORATION Tell God how wonderful He is; praise Him

C= CONFESSION Admit my sins and ask for forgiveness

T= THANKSGIVING Say thanks for all God has done

S= SUPPLICATION Make my requests to God for myself and others



Requests for myself and others:

Date: _____

Notes about how God answered my prayers:
