

READ: JOHN 17 (NIV)

Jesus Prays to Be Glorified

17 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.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

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.

Jesus Prays for All Believers

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.”

BONUS MATERIAL:

Use John 17 to create your own prayer for your kids!

Prayer for _____ *(name your children)*

Father, work through me as I desire to work for You. Allow me to be the earthy parent that best reflects You, our heavenly Father. You Lord, have given me the responsibility to serve as authority over my family. Please bless me with Your guidance. God, please draw _____ *(name your children)* ever closer to You, that they may know You. Let me lean into the work You have given me in my family and to see this work as a blessing and never a burden.

Father, help me present Your presence to _____ *(name your children)*. You have given them to me, though they will always remain Yours. I pray the good in me, they will attribute to You and my failures will not take their eyes off of You.

Father, thank you for the communion I share with You. As I seek to train them up, please help them experience a deeper level of communion that even we share. The day will come when I will be called to my final home with You. In their remaining years, please hold them fast to You.

Father, help me remain alert and to guard them and train them to remain alert. I pray they will never fall away.

Father, help as I venture through this world to be an example of joy and hope beyond this world. Allow my joy to be passed on to _____ *(name your children)*. I pray that I would help direct their eyes to their heavenly citizenship.

Father, help me as I prepare _____ *(name your children)* for Your calling on their life. Allow my heart to remain humbly surrendered to You, and selflessly focused on training _____ *(name your children)*. My prayer is, though they are in the world, that they remain entirely in You.

Father, help me train them in unity. Keep them united as siblings and with mature believers.

Father, help me express Your love to them. Lord, I pray they will always know how much I care for and love them. I ask You keep me strong in You, that I may best lead them.

Amen!