1Thess #128

The application of the Doctrine of Prayer.

First - just a reminder, I am taking a few days off this first weekend in September.

I will announce the teaching schedule on Tuesday’s class – it will only be one or two classes… so no worries! No need to change your routine, there are plenty of videos available on You tube, Rumble and Brighteon.

I want to send a shout out to James as he sent a recent email that was very edifying.

As always he and Lisa are generous supports of the ministry and serious students.

Nathan also has sent a couple nice emails recently. It lifts me up and drives me forward to know serious students are out there metabolizing the messages that God the HS reveals to me.

 Please open up today in the gospel of John chapter 17 RF.

As I am certain our lesson on Matthew chapter 6 in relation to the Lord’s prayer may have been a simple reminder for some - yet an awakening for others.

It would be remiss of me not to at least read through what many theologians and scholars call the true LORD’S Prayer of the NT.

Now there will be those who will dispute this but it is not something I have made up, nor is it something that is a new concept…there are a handful of teachers and theologians who describe the Lord’s prayer in John 17 not in Mat chapter 6.

As you go to John 17 - I will dive into a few principles;

/The prayer in Matthew 6 was not a prayer the Lord Himself would use it was given to the original Apostles as a format for prayer. Its core language spoke to future events while instilling the concept of repentance, forgiveness and gratitude as well as seeking guidance. It was a template for the new CA Bels to use. It is not designed to chant in repetitive fashion in mindless efforts to get GOD’s attention.\

Anytime you cover the doctrine of prayer you step on some toes! Because people want their own version of God, they want their own version of Jesus.

They want their own version of the HS as well as prayer. Basically - Bels and Unbels, love to wallow in what they believe God is and what the Bible teaches them.

Many times, what they believe is outside of what real scripture teaches.

/One of the biggest failures of mankind (Bels & Unbels) in relation to getting intimate with GOD is their lack of academic interest in the real truth of scripture. There can always be layers under a scripture and great depth to Bible Doctrine – yet it can not fall under the umbrella of modern-day relativism. There is never your truth, my truth and endless truths to scripture! \

If that were the case - the narrow gate of salvation through faith alone, in Christ alone, would now be the broad entrance to heaven that everyone walks through on their own merits and their own human righteousness.

 REPEAT

Which by the way will be one of the teachings in the ONE World order religious system.

/Ecc 5:2 Do not be **quick with your mouth or impulsive in thought** to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; **therefore let your words be few**. 3 For the dream comes through much effort, and **the voice of a fool through many words**.\

John chapter 17 covers the whole prayer, we will dive into the first half for the sake of some prayer principles. And we will note a few other scriptures in the chapter yet we will not cover the whole chapter.

I suggest you read it from verse one into the end of verse twenty-six.

Now in John 17 – this was outside after the Last Supper which was in the upper room (Jhn 13-16). Though John does not show a transition outside in the Garden of Gethsemane, this is believed to be a portion of the last teaching of Jesus Christ before they all settled into their favorite spot in the wee hours of the night in the garden.

By all accounts it may have been on the walk over to the Garden of Gethsemane.

/Jhn 17:1 Jesus spoke these things; and **raising His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father,** the hour has come; glorify Your Son, so that the Son may glorify You,

There is no distinction between sitting, kneeling or standing, only a clear focus and addressed to God the Father.\

Never make an issue out of kneeling or standing – simply make sure the focus and attention goes toward God the Father first.

Jesus acknowledged the proper protocol of God the Father and speaks of the plan or will of God the Father, by saying the HOUR has come.

/Your personal willingness within prayer, to conform your life to the plan of God is paramount for successful prayer and success in your spiritual walk. Prayer that bucks the authority of the WORD and ignores the plan of God is prayer that remains unanswered. Prayer and your desires have to align inside God’s will for success.\

Your prayer must align with BD – it has to have validity within the plan of GOD.

/[Jhn 17:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/2/s_1014002) just as **You gave Him authority**(*exousia*) **over all mankind**, so that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life.

Speaking in legal terms of full authority it is recognized and passed in judicial process as (Justice of God) law.\

EX-OH-SEE-AH, this was a governmental or legal term for judicial power or authority to make or enforce law.

The Greek root word, pointed directly to a law or judicial determination.

Notice Jesus speaking in the third person in recognition of the doctrine of the Hypostatic Union – deity speaking about HIS humanity which is about to physically pay the price for the sins of the world.

The Greek context called this - a second person singular, written in the perfect tense. This is why this it is so unique, it is TLJC in prayer in both HIS deity and humanity.

/[Jhn 17:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/3/s_1014003) “And **this is eternal life, that they may know You**, the only true God, and **Jesus Christ** whom You have sent.

This is not a prayer mankind can copy word for word – this is the true LORD’s Prayer! HIS work on the cross met the legal standard of full authority over all of the world. \

Mankind and the earth itself would be lost without the person and work of TLJC. We are now all secured under the authority of TLJC!

[Jhn 17:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/4/s_1014004) “I glorified You on the earth by accomplishing the work which You have given Me to do.

Speaking to full compliance to the protocol plan of God the Father.

[Jhn 17:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/5/s_1014005) “And now You, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world existed.

This speaks to a bold confidence toward prayer with GOD.

/Heb 4:16 Therefore **let’s approach the throne of grace with confidence,** so that we may receive mercy and find grace for help at the time of *our* need.\

A Bel who has placed themselves directly inside the plan of GOD can have confidence in their prayer life.

/[Jhn 17:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/6/s_1014006) “I have revealed Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; **they were Yours and You gave them to Me**, and **they have followed Your word.**

The desire and plan of GOD is that everyone come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ!\

This means the accuracy of the word is in view. You do not make up the plan of God for your life as you go along.

Without proper interpretation of God’s word people become lost or confused.

 REPEAT

[Jhn 17:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/7/s_1014007) “Now they have come to know that everything which You have given Me is from You;

/[Jhn 17:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/8/s_1014008) for **the words which You gave Me I have given to them;** and they received *them* and truly understood that I came forth from You, and **they believed that You sent Me**.

Everything is centered on the WORD (mind of Christ) therefore your prayer life must be aligned with scripture.\

Your feelings, lust patterns or desires do not change the truth of scripture!

/[Jhn 17:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/9/s_1014009) “**I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world,** but on the behalf of those whom You have given Me, because they are Yours;

A key aspect of prayer is for others, the safety and growth of other people is an important portion of prayer.\

In fact, SM is seen in your prayer life! The less you focus on your own personal desires and wishes and the more you focus on others in prayer is a good sign of maturity.

Selfish prayers rarely get answered!

[Jhn 17:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/17/10/s_1014010) and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them.

The remainder of the prayer is a strong petition for all Bels to be guided and protected and come together in unity.

Jump down a few verses to see;

/Jhn 17:20 “**I am not asking on behalf of these alone, but also for those who believe in Me through their word**, 21 that **they may all be one**; just as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, **that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me**.\

Jump over to 2Corinthians chapter 12 RF.

Yes…we are called to pray for Unbels! We are called to pray for the word of God to touch every corner of this lost and dying world.

The spiritually immature Bel has a prayer life focused on crying out for help every time they get in a jam, or asking for selfish desires outside of the plan of God for their life.

/A Mature Bel recognizes that prayer is not a problem-solving device, it can never replace growing in God’s grace and knowledge. They also recognize that HIS plan and HIS word, hold priority so therefore their prayer life is aligned with what GOD has designed for their walk with HIM! \

Remember something very powerful – you may pray for a job or promotion, or even a relationship, that appears you are qualified to get and seems almost in your reach. **IF IT IS NOT** ordained in God’s plan for you or the timing is off – it will not come to fruition.

 REPEAT

The Apostle Paul was brought up to the third heaven and given Bible class on mystery doctrine by TLJC Himself.

This section of 2Corinthians points to this exact situation.

2Cor 12:7 Because of the extraordinary *greatness* of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!

Many Bible scholars believe Paul had a few medical issues that really plagued him - such as poor eyesight.

There is no clear definition of what type of torment this was in his life but it was very bothersome for him.

[/2Co 12:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2co/12/8/s_1090008) Concerning this **I pleaded with the Lord three times**that it might leave me.

This points to the doctrine of prayer used in a repetitive fashion within the proper context.\

Praying over and over again shows that you have not handed that prayer over to GOD.

I use the rule of thumb in prayer of at least 3 times in serious prayer on the same subject matter and then hand it over to God.

Now I may circle back around weeks or months later and pray again on the same subject matter. But I do not get stuck in the same repetitive prayer over and over for months on end.

[/2Co 12:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2co/12/9/s_1090009) And He has said to me, **“My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.”** Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

The Apostle Paul realized that this request had been answered by GOD’s grace! That this human curse was actually a type of spiritual blessings for his growth.\

[2Co 12:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2co/12/10/s_1090010) Therefore I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in distresses, in persecutions, in difficulties, in behalf of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

This rule of 3 prayers, for me, is taken from both the Apostle Paul and TLJC. Let me close today simply by reading in Matthew chapter 26.

I will highlight a few principles in closing that should help clarify prayer for you as well.

/Mat 26:36 Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and told His disciples, **“Sit here while I go over there and pray.”**

Serious prayer takes intimacy, focus and time alone with GOD! \

[Mat 26:37](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/37/s_955037) And He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with Him, and began to be grieved and distressed.

[Mat 26:38](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/38/s_955038) Then He said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me.”

Jesus in HIS humanity was showing us HIS own vulnerability.

/[Mat 26:39](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/39/s_955039) And He went a little beyond *them,* and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “**My Father, if it is possible**, let this cup pass from Me; **yet not as I will, but as You *will.*”**

No matter what the prayer follow protocol and keep your concentration. Focus on HIS plan for your life, not your own desires. \

[Mat 26:40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/40/s_955040) And He came to the disciples and \*found them sleeping, and He said to Peter, “So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour?

[Mat 26:41](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/41/s_955041) “Keep watching and praying, so that you do not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Unity in prayer for one another brings protection against the schemes of the devil.

/[Mat 26:42](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/42/s_955042) He went away again **a second time and prayed**, saying, “My Father, if this *cup* cannot pass away unless I drink *from* it, Your will be done.”

This is the same prayer with great intensity and focus – a singular mission prayer that is not attached to several other petitions. \

[Mat 26:43](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/43/s_955043) Again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

/[Mat 26:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/44/s_955044) And He left them again, and went away and **prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more**.

In the area of dire needs and deeper prayers, keep it very focused on the one area! Never lose sight in the end it is God’s will and HIS timing and plan at work.\

[Mat 26:45](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/mat/26/45/s_955045) Then He came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners.

Mat 26:46 “Get up, let’s go; behold, the one who is betraying Me is near!”

Jesus in HIS humanity, knew from the OT prophecies what HE was about to face.

This was to show us, for our benefit that in the humanity of Christ HE faced every challenge and difficulty we will ever face. His temptation, pain and challenges go above and beyond that of what we would ever face.