

## GOD'S PRAYER FOR MY LIFE: Part 2

*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. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 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. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 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. 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. Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. 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. JOHN 17:14-26 TNIV*

Jesus Christ prayer for my life is that I would...

### 1. FOLLOW GOD'S ROAD MAP FOR LIVING

*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. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. JOHN 17:14-17 TNIV*

*How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey. Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life. Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path. PSALM 119:103-105 NLT*

*Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry. During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread. But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, ' People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" MATTHEW 4:1-4 NLT*

**DISCUSSION:** How is your life set apart for God? How are you following God's road map so that your life can be set apart?

## 2. INVITE GOD'S PERSONAL PRESENCE IN MY LIFE

*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. Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. 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. JOHN 17:24-26 TNIV*

*Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. JOHN 17:3 NIV*

**PRAYER PROJECT:** Get alone with God. Put yourself into a comfortable position and allow your heart, mind and body to become still. When you are ready read silently John 17:24-26 a few times through. Allow the words to roll around in your head, being mindful to what jumps out at you. When something does catch your attention stay there and take it in. Allow the words to move to your heart and open yourself to what the Lord would say to you through them. Be mindful of any feelings and or thoughts that come up inside of you. Talk to the Lord about them remaining open to his presence.

When you are ready, turn your conversation with God into a time of prayer. Allow his Spirit to guide you as you pray. Bring your prayer time to a close and transition back to your group.

**DISCUSSION:** Share with your group what happened in your time of prayer. What did the Lord say? How did he convict you in such a way as to move you towards unity with his Church?

## 3. BECOME ONE WITH GOD'S SPIRITUAL FAMILY, THE CHURCH

*I have given them the glory that you gave me, that **they** may be one **as we** are one— 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. JOHN 17:22-23 TNIV*

**DISCUSSION:** On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being fully united), how would you rate yourself on being united with the Church? How would others rate you? What are you doing well? With what are you struggling? What barriers are specifically keeping you from being more united with the Church?

#### 4. REJECT MY SELFISHNESS AND ACCEPT GOD'S MISSION TO REACH OTHERS

*As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I **sanctify** myself, that they too may **be truly sanctified**. My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 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. JOHN 17:18-21 TNIV*

**DISCUSSION:** What are you still holding onto that you need to release so that you can more completely be united to the Church? Are you willing to let go of it? How can your group help you to let it go?