



*“I do not pray for those alone, but also for those who will believe in me through their word.”* John 17:20

God gave us a powerful spiritual resource in the gift of prayer. When we pray, we unleash the very power of God into our lives. Prayer should not be an effort on our part to tell God what to do. Rather, prayer, in its purest form, is opening ourselves up to sharing with God and aligning ourselves with God’s will and plan and purpose for our lives.

That’s why when we have a special burden or need, we often ask other people to pray for us. Our human tendency is to ask someone who is faithful, spiritually mature, and cares for us. It’s important for us to know that there is a Person like that who has demonstrated His willingness to pray for us: Jesus Himself.

On the night of His betrayal, Jesus prayed for Himself, for His disciples, and for all believers - all who come to know Jesus through the disciples’ ministry throughout the ages. That includes all of us. At the heart of Jesus’ prayer was His desire for the disciples - then and now - to have the joy of knowing the Father (vs 13) and to know the same love from the Father that Jesus had known. (vs 20)

Did you know that Jesus prayed that prayer for you, and that He continues to this day to pray for you? (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25) So you can rest assured that Jesus is happy to intercede for you. Therefore, let us “Cast our cares upon Him, for he cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7)

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