

## The Prayers of Jesus – John 12:20-33

Theme: “Our goal is God’s glory.”

1 Corinthians 10:31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

John 20:23 And Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

John 12:24 “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”

John 12:27-33 “Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 “Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came out of heaven: “I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.” 29 So the crowd of *people* who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, “An angel has spoken to Him.” 30 Jesus answered and said, “This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. 31 “Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. 32 “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.” 33 But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die.

### 1. Prayer is an open conversation with God.

John 12:27 “Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name.”

- **We tend to make prayer an event, but it’s a life.**
  - Prayer is not something we add to our to-do list but to our become list.
- **Prayer is also not just a request but a conversation.**
  - Tim Keller: “Prayer is continuing a conversation that God has started through His Word and His grace which eventually becomes a full encounter with Him.”

### 2. Prayer connects us to our eternal purpose.

John 12:27-28 “Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name.”

- Their request pointed to the bigger scope of the Gospel

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Acts 10:34-35 I most certainly understand *now* that God is not one to show partiality, 35 but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.

Acts 2:21 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

- As we pray, God helps us to connect our lives to His purpose.
- “Our goal is God’s glory.”
- “Prayer is that oven that tempers the soul, strengthens the body, and resolves the mind.”

### 3. God works in response to our prayer to impact others.

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Jesus answered and said, “This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. 31 “Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. 32 “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.” 33 But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die.

- After Jesus prayed, people heard a voice from heaven.
- John 12:30 Jesus answered and said, “This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes.
- The main purpose of prayer is not for us to get what we want or even need.
- The main purpose is to align our hearts with the heart of God.
  
- “All of history will be different because you lived.”
- 1 Corinthians 7:17 Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him.

**Further Thought:**

- How will prayer be an open conversation between you and God?
- How should you adjust your prayer life to focus on God’s eternal purpose for yourself, your spouse, your children, your friends, our church, our nation, and our world?

How has God impacted others through your prayers? What changes can you make so your prayers connect to God’s mission?