

LESSON

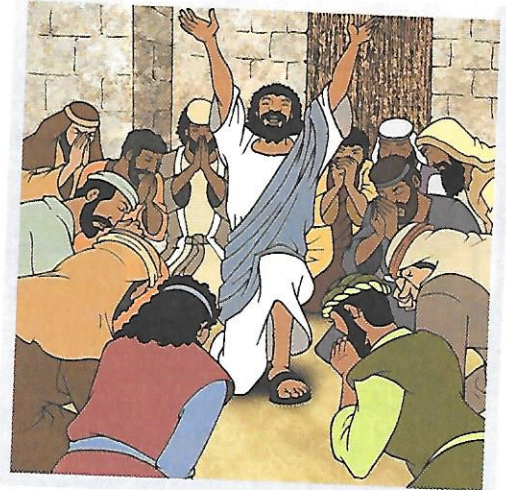
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Middle Elementary • Grades 2–3

January 24, 2021

Lesson Scripture:

John 17:14-24



Seeking Help for Others

When praying for the disciples, Jesus said to God, "I gave them Your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world, and I am not of this world. I do not pray for You to take them out of the world, but I ask You to keep them safe from the Evil One. They are not of this world. I am not of this world."

He continued, "*Sanctify* (purify) them by Your truth. Your Word is truth. As I was sent, I am sending them. For them I dedicate Myself, so that they may be dedicated as well."

In His prayer, Jesus prayed for all believers who will know Him through His disciples' message. He asked that all believers will be united—all together with Him and God. "So the world will believe that You sent Me and love them as You have loved Me," Jesus prayed.

Jesus prayed that those whom God had given to Him would be with Jesus where He is and see His glory. Jesus said that God had given Him glory even before Creation.

Key Verse

[Jesus prayed,] "I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours." (John 17:9)



Praying for Others



While Daren was waiting for baseball practice to start, he noticed that Terrell had walked over and sat on the bench with his head down.

Daren ran over and asked, "Terrell, what's up, man? Are you okay?"

"I'll be okay. It's just that my dad is being deployed to sea and I really don't want him to go," Terrell replied.

"Man, I hate that," Daren commented.

Daren sat down next to Terrell. For a few minutes, they sat in silence. Then Daren said, "There's not much that I can do to help, Terrell. But, my mom taught me that what I can do is pray for your dad and for you."

"Man, I really would like that," Terrell said. "My dad is really going to need it."

Daren prayed for Terrell and his family and all of the soldiers that would go with his dad.

After the prayer, Terrell asked. "Daren, you prayed for the others that will go with him . . . why?"

"Because they need God's protection as well. And maybe they will be able to share God's love while they are there," Daren explained. "Praying always helps."

***** Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab *****



Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Did you know that Jesus spent a lot of His time praying? We must pray for others to hear God's Word and believe. Did you know that it is important to pray for those that carry the Word? Jesus knew that His disciples were devoted. However, He still prayed for their protection as they carried God's Word into the world. Have you prayed today for those that take the Word into the world?

Here's your assignment: Think of people who are sharing the Gospel. Make a list. We can share our lists and pray as a class for them next time.

The Prayer Connection

Our lesson reminds us that we are to pray for others. Jesus gives us many examples of how to pray. In today's lesson, Jesus prayed for His disciples and for those they would come into contact with as believers. Reread His prayers in your student book. Then write four sentences about what Jesus prayed for.



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

A Prayer for Others

Jesus prayed for His disciples and for all believers. In today's lesson, we hear about the importance of praying for others as we share who Jesus is. In the space below, write a prayer similar to Jesus' prayer. Pray for those in your class and for people you will meet this week. Then feel free to share your prayers with the class.

Dear God,

Amen.