

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 14:7-14

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-411 JUNE 03, 2001

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“How Should We Pray?”

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

TOPICAL SUBJECT SEARCH KEYWORDS:

Prayer, Faith, Knowing God

INTRODUCTION

to the text

John 14:7-14

The Evolution of a Relationship

It's rather remarkable. Every Relationship must first begin with a meeting.

It may be a meeting by face or by voice or by letter, but there is that first meeting. Usually with that First Meeting there comes The Excitement of a New Relationship. Becoming Acquainted with each other, finding out about one another's likes and dislikes and with a little bit of time, - There is the Getting to Know each other.

From There – The Skies the Limit

- Because a United **Friendship** can Create Vision
- Because a United **Couple** can Serve God Better
 - Because a United **Family** can Grow Faith
- And a United **Church** can Change the World

Psalm 133:1-3

O' how good and how pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Our Relationship with God Begins with a Prayer

Luke 11:1

Now as Jesus was praying one of His disciples said to Him,
"Lord, teach us to pray..."

How Should We Pray?

Is an all-important question, because we have a relationship with a real person. The
person of God!

The Bible teaches us that God has
manifested Himself via three distinct yet
unified personalities.

How Should We Pray?

1.) *KNOWING the One We Are Praying To*

vv. 7-9

**"If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also;
and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."**

Verse 4-6

"And where I go you know, and the way you know." 5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

"I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

**"The Sum Total of Meaning
and Purpose"**

How Should We Pray?

Knowing the One We Are Praying To

a.) *Knowing Jesus is the Key to the Father* v.7

"If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.
and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

the point is stressed upon two inseparable truths

#1

God is to be Known

#2

And Knowing God is to Know the Father and The Son

John 10:30

"I and My Father are one."

I (The One and Only) **and Father** (The One and Only)
One (The One and Only) – **Are** (The United)

THIS IS THE CENTRAL TRUTH OF CHRISTIANITY

Christianity is Monotheistic - God is One, Who Has Chosen to Reveal Himself in Three
Persons, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit

“What is God Like?”

Philippians 2:6-8

“who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”

Jesus says Exactly what the Father Says.
He does exactly what the father does. He is in Nature exactly what the Father is

from now on you know Him ...

The Father Desired to Express the Nature of God to His Creation
What was the Best way to do this?

It was the sending of His Son - The Second Person of the Monotheistic Godhead - The
Lord Jesus Christ

Who - according to the Bible, Came to Earth as a Son, to Reveal the Nature of God the
Father to man, His fallen children.

You Have **Known** Him & You Have **Seen** Him

THE HEBREW - SOLOMON WROTE

Proverbs 30:4

Who has gone up to heaven and come down? Who has gathered up the wind in the hollow of his hands? Who has wrapped up the waters in his cloak? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and the name of his son? Tell me if you know! . - *divinity*

THE HEBREW PSALMIST WRITES

Psalm 2:7-12

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "**You are my Son**; today I have become your Father. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery." 10 Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. 11 Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. 12 **Kiss the Son**, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can arise in a moment. **Blessed are all who take refuge in him.** - *divinity*

THE HEBREW PROPHET - ISAIAH 9:6

Isaiah 9:6b

...a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, "Everlasting Father" - The Governor of Time, Prince of Peace.

THE HEBREW SCHOLAR SAUL OF TARSUS TELLS

Colossians 2:8-9

See to it that no one takes you captive through the empty and deceptive of philosophy, which depends on human understanding and the basic principles of this world - rather than on Christ Himself. 9 For in Christ all the fullness of the God head lives in human form,

GOD BECAME MAN

SO THAT JESUS MIGHT COMMUNICATE TO US WHAT GOD IS LIKE

Jesus is Saying

That the father cannot be known without knowing the Son,
And the Son cannot be known without the Father

1 John 5:10-12

He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. 11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

1 John 2:22-23

Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. 23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

1 John 4:14-15

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

Knowing the One We Are Praying To

b.) Knowing Jesus is Knowing the Father

v.8-9

8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." 9 Jesus said to him, "**Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?**"

Verse 8

Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, **and it is sufficient for us.**"

Verse 9

**He who has seen Me has seen the Father;
so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?**

He who has seen Me has seen the Father

1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

How Should We Pray?

2.) *BELIEVING in Who He is*

vv. 10-11

a.) *Believing in Jesus' Position*

v.10

"Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?"

Matthew 6:7-9

"And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8 "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. 9 "In this manner, therefore, pray: our Father **in heaven...**

We're to pray in Jesus' name

Matthew 18:20

"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

John 16:23-24

"And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

Why? – Because Jesus Prays for Us!

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Why? – Because the spirit Prays for Us!

Romans 8:26-27

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

His Position is Unique

1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

Hebrews 10:10-12

By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. 11 And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God,

Believing in Who He is

b.) Believing in Jesus' Words

v.10

**The words that I speak to you
I do not speak on My own authority.**

The thrust here is

That whatever Jesus has spoken was what the Father wanted said.

Hebrews 1:1-3

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in times past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3 who being the brightness of His glory and the expressed image of His person...

The Father Gave the Earthly Jesus Authority – He has Given it to Us

Matthew 28:18-19

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father

John 15:7-8

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

Ezekiel 36:27

"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, (words) and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Believing in Who He is

c.) *Believing in Jesus' Works*

v.10b-11

but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. 11 "Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

John 5:19-20

"Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. 20 "For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does...

John 8:29

for I always do those things that please Him."

John 10:37-38

"If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; 38 "but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him."

John 21:25

And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

Verse 11

“Believe Me!”

this is a command to decide to believe now

How Should We Pray?

3.) *EXPECTING Him to do Great Things* vv.12-14

a.) *His Works are Driven by Faith* v.12

12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do - he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Jesus was very different

than all the other Hebrew prophets in that He Never Said, "Thus Saith the Lord"

- He was the Lord!

**"He who believes in Me,
*the works that I do - he will do also; and greater
works than these he will do,*"**

Mark 16:16-20

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 "they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." 19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

Is casting out demons greater than what Jesus did? – NO!

Is speaking in tongues greater than what Jesus did? –
NO!

Is healing the sick greater than what Jesus did? – NO!

greater works than these

The “These” = Miracles and the Signs

The Context is Global Evangelism

World evangelism – that is done by the Holy Spirit in the Life of a Christian through
the Church – *that is the greater work!*

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall
be **witnesses** to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and **to the end of
the earth.**"

Q:

What Greater Work Could the Follower of Jesus Do?
That could be greater than what Jesus and His Apostles have done?

A:

- To Proclaim His Gospel to the end of the Earth
 - To The Conversion of Souls
 - To Rescuing People from Hell
- To Plucking them from the Jaws of Satan

(This honor has been given to the believer - to
the church)

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words Peter testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation. 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

Romans 10:13-15

For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." 14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

Verse 12

**because I go (as in back)
to My Father.**

**“I, Unto My Father, Go”
or “the round-trip journey nears completion”**

Expecting Him to do Great Things

b.) Answered Prayer is Guaranteed in Him

v.13-14

13 "And whatever you ask in My name, - that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

**whatever you ask
in My Name
- that I will do**

This Assumes a Heavenly Mindset

In My Name – Authority or Agreement

**“If you ask anything”
in My Name I will do it**

John 16:24

"Until now you have asked nothing **in My name**. Ask, (ask for now on) and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

this is a rather sad truth – *if you ask*

James 4:2

You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

Luke 11:9-10

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Luke 12:31-32

31 "But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. 32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

1 John 5:14-15

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

The Reason Why Many of Our Prayers Never Get Answered

James 4:3

You ask, but you do not receive, because you ask with the wrong motives, that you may spend what you ask for upon your own passions.

How Should We Pray?

Matthew 7:7-11

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 9 "Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 "Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"How Should We Pray?"

1.) *KNOWING the One We Are Praying To* *vv. 7-9*

a.) *Knowing Jesus is the Key to the Father*

b.) *Knowing Jesus is Knowing the Father*

2.) *BELIEVING in Who He is* *vv. 10-11*

a.) *Believing in Jesus' Position*

b.) *Believing in Jesus' Words*

c.) *Believing in Jesus' Works*

3.) *EXPECTING Him to do Great Things* vv.12-14

a.) *His Works are Driven by Faith*

b.) *Answered Prayer is Guaranteed in Him*

The Evolution of a Relationship

“And it is sufficient for us”

- see why Christians love Jesus?

END OF STUDY