

When Jesus Prays

How do you pray when you know you're about to face something hard? Facing his imminent death, Jesus prayed to be glorified. As we begin our study of Jesus' prayer in John 17, we'll discuss the background and context of Jesus' prayer and why Christians commonly refer to it as his "High Priestly Prayer." Then we'll examine the opening verses that record his petition to the Father to glorify him so that he might glorify the Father. Together, we'll unpack the meaning of Jesus' words and the implications of his prayer for our own lives.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How would you define prayer and explain what a person does when they pray?
- What does the word "glory" make you think of? How would you describe glory?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [When Jesus Prays](#)

READ [John 17:1-5](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, hosts Scott Hoezee and Darrell Delaney briefly review the teachings Jesus imparted to his disciples about the Father, the Holy Spirit, and the connectedness of the Trinity before his prayer in [John 17](#). Why do you think this context is important to remember as we begin studying his prayer?
- Read [Hebrews 5:1-10](#). What does it mean to you that Jesus is our *high priest*, the mediator standing between us and God?
- Recall how you described glory above. How did it compare to the weightiness of glory Scott and Darrell discussed in segment 2? What did you think of the quote Scott shared from preacher Debbie Blue, "True glory does not shine, it bleeds"?
- Reflect on what Scott said in segment 3: "When you are persecuted; when those fiery trials come; when you are insulted because of the name of Christ; then you share Christ's cross-shaped glory—a glory that does not shine but it bleeds." With this knowledge, what would it mean for you to pray like Jesus did: to be glorified so that God may be glorified through you?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Hebrews 7:23-27](#), [Exodus 40:34-38](#), [Philippians 2:1-11](#), [1 Peter 4:12-14](#), [Hebrews 5:1-10](#)

CONCLUSION

At the end of the episode, Scott says, “The good news is that God’s glory does not depart from us when we go through hard times; that is when it is revealed the most.” How does this truth impact your faith?

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/when-jesus-prays>

Printed on February 22, 2025