



**Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide:  
Simply Jesus: Week 1, March 8, 2020**

Recap:

- One thing we can see in the prayers of Jesus is that we should pray for a relationship with him, centering our lives on him. Jesus prays that his disciples will not just focus on their relationship with God, but that they will be sent out to share his life with the world.
- It is hard to have an authentic relationship with someone if we are not praying for that person. If we don't pray for a relationship with Jesus, how can we have a relationship with him? If we don't pray to share love with others, how will we do so?
- Pastor Ryan wants us to start every day this week by praying, "God, help me to focus on you and giving my life over to you, then use me to bless your world. Make me a part of your mission. God, use me to bless someone today."
- Many of us have been trying to do this faith thing alone. We're not made for that. The road trip journey of following Jesus, of being on mission for him, is meant to be done in relationship with other fellow travelers.

Discuss:

1. What is your prayer life like? Are you a regular prayer? What sorts of things do you pray for? Do you pray with other people?
2. What do you think are some important elements of prayer?
3. Read John 17:1-5
4. How would you explain Jesus' mission as he states it in these verses?
5. Read John 17:6-19
6. What are some words in this part of the prayer that stand out to you?
7. Why do you think Jesus wants to pray for his disciples?
8. Why do you think praying for others is important?
9. Read John 17:20-23
10. How do you think prayer brings unity?
11. Who is someone that you could talk more about faith with? Who is someone that you could begin to pray for and pray with?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

Read at Home: Readings about Prayer

- Matthew 7:7-12                      Mark 11:22-25                      Matthew 5:43-48