

A Prayer for His Followers

(based on John 17:1-11)

Each Gospel—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—tells of times when Jesus went off to pray by himself. He taught the disciples the prayer we call the Lord’s Prayer. But only in the Gospel of John do we have a prayer that Jesus prayed for his followers.

It was the night when he had the last supper with the disciples. He told them many things about what was going to happen to him. Then, before he went to the garden where he was arrested, Jesus prayed to God.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the time has come. I have done the work you gave me. I have given to those who believe in me all the words that you gave me.

“Now I am praying for them, my followers. Holy One, watch over them when I am gone. Help them to be one, just as I am one with you.”

Jesus prayed for a long time. Then he and the disciples left the upper room and headed to the garden where it would all begin.



Prayer Chain

1. Take turns rolling the die and moving your game marker along the Prayer Chain board.
2. Each time you land on a space, take a paper strip of the same color and use the key below to write the name of someone in your family or someone from church on the strip.
3. When you land on a white space, copy the words from the game board on a strip of white paper.
4. After you finish the path on the game board, staple or glue your strips to make a paper chain.
5. Take your chain home. Each night tear off one link and pray for the person named on that strip.
6. When you get to a "Thanks," "Sorry," or "Wow!" link, tell God something that you are thankful for, something you are sorry for, or something about God's creation that makes you say, "Wow!"

Color Key:

- **Red:** Someone who can't come to church because of illness or age
- **Yellow:** Someone who works at your church or teaches Sunday school
- **Blue:** Someone in your Sunday school class
- **Green:** Someone who prays for you

