

Starting Point For Effective Prayer:

Understanding prayer is not the issue ...
Knowing God is the issue!

Truth: What amazed everyone about Jesus was his spiritual authority . . . how he knew God was different . . . radically different!

John 17 describes Jesus, the Son of God, at prayer.

- He is emptied of His heavenly attributes
- He is completely dependent upon:
 - His Father's *authority*.
 - the Spirit's *direction*.



The Context of Jesus' Prayer

John 13: Demonstration – Jesus washes His disciples feet.

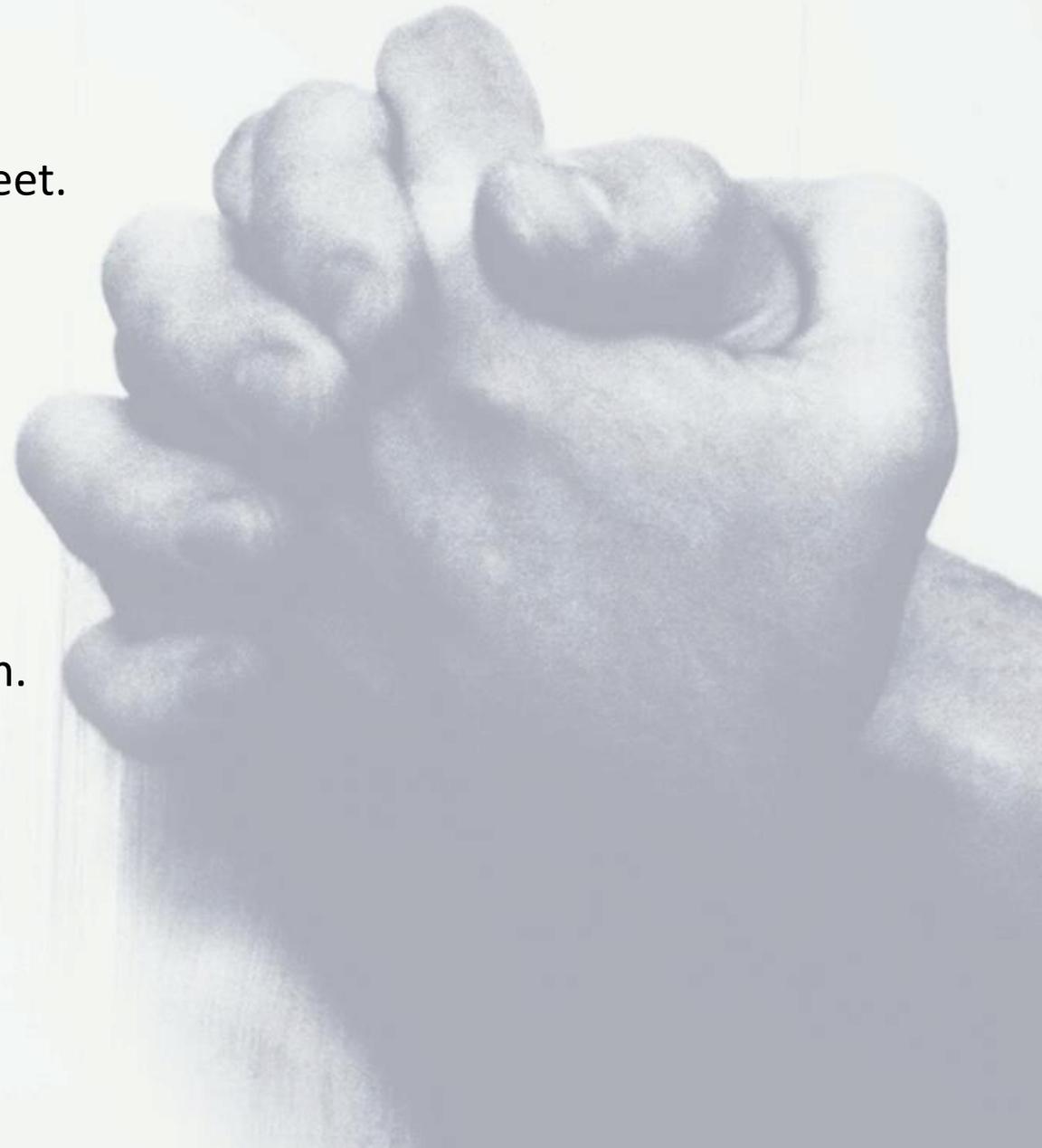
John 14-16: Instruction – Final Discourse.

- *I Am; Holy Spirit; I Am; Take heart.*

John 17: Prayer – “Father, the hour has come ...”

- for himself; his disciples; his Church.

John 18-20: Demonstration – The Cross & Resurrection.



Last Week: Jesus' Worldview:

1. Heaven:

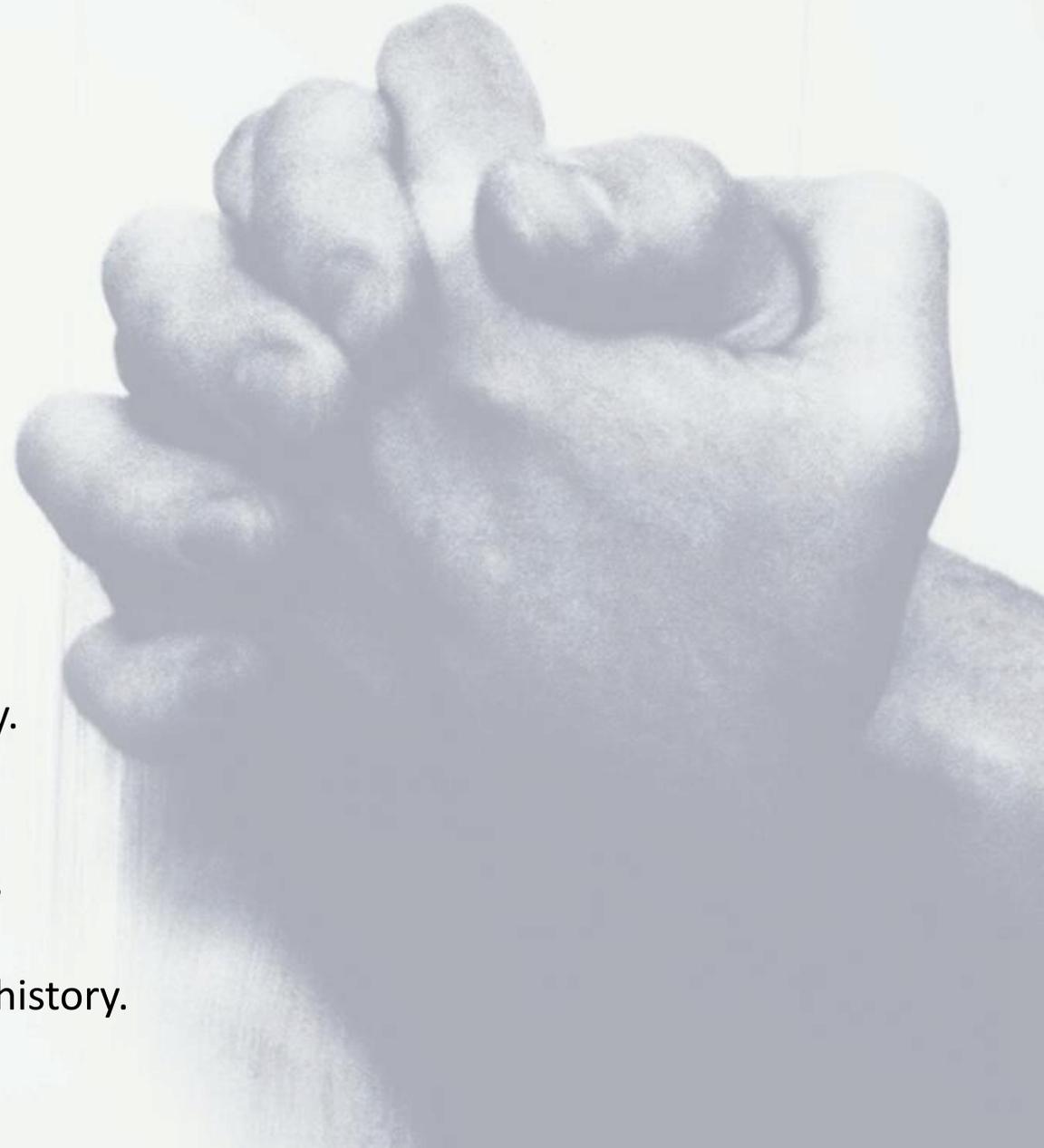
- a. it's a real, physical place.
- b. it's a place where we can go.
- c. it's a place where others already are.
- d. it's place that Jesus is preparing.
- e. it's a place where all is well.
- f. it's a place where everything is new.
- g. it's a place Jesus and the Father call "home".

2. Father:

- a. God exists as a perfect Father to His Son, Jesus.
- b. His Father wants to adopt everyone into His family.

3. Himself:

- a. He is both equal and 'at one' with God, His Father.
- b. He has complete authority over everything.
- c. His death/resurrection is the defining moment in history.



This Week – Jesus at Prayer:

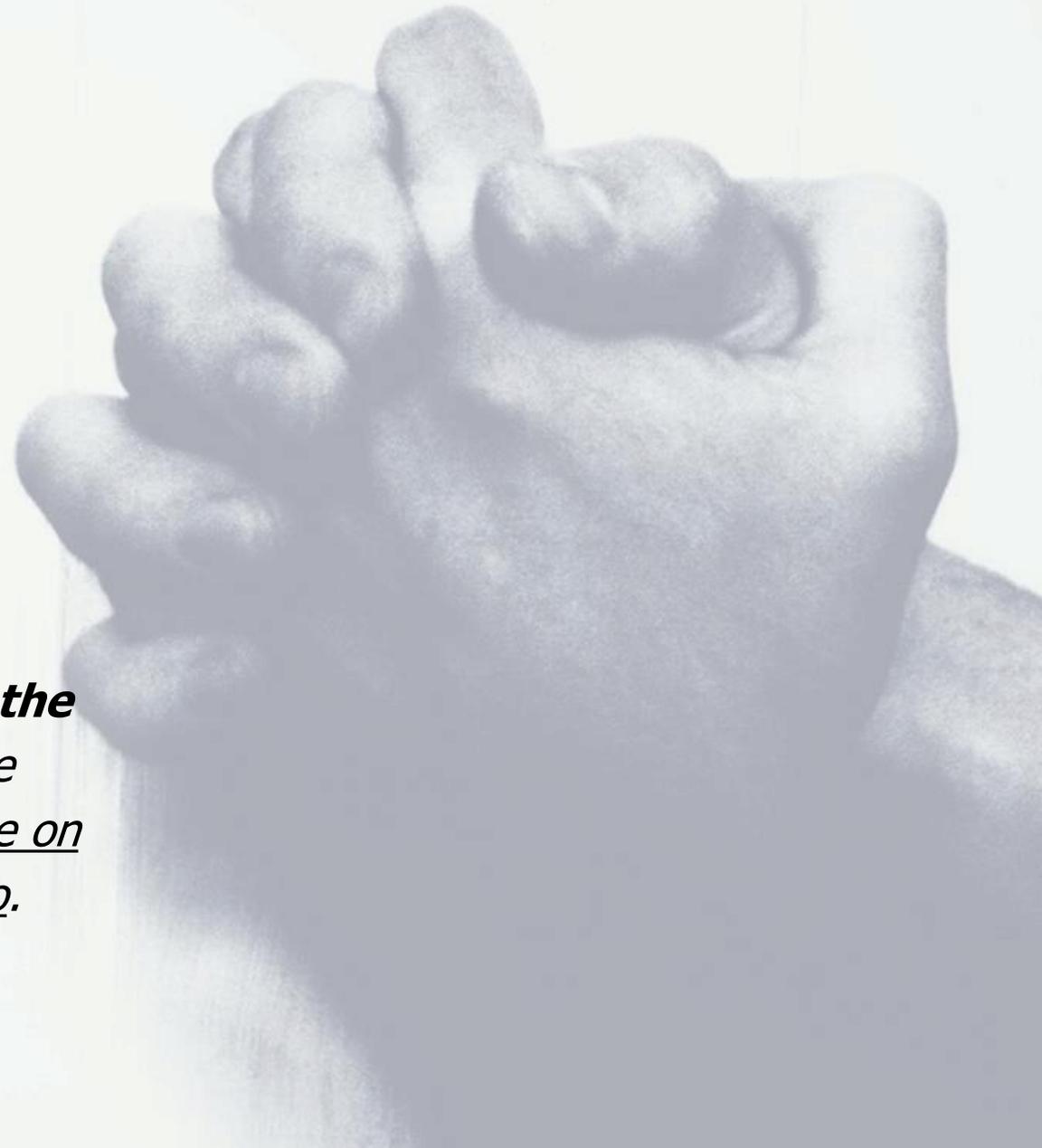
- **What is He praying about?**

1. He's praying about the spiritual liberation of the world.

- a. His part in it. (v.v. 1-5)
- b. The Disciple's part in it. (v.v. 6-19)
- c. Your part in it. (v.v. 20-26)

a. His part in it. (v.v. 1-5)

*¹ Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "**Father, the hour has come.** Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you ... ⁴ I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.*



This Week – Jesus at Prayer:

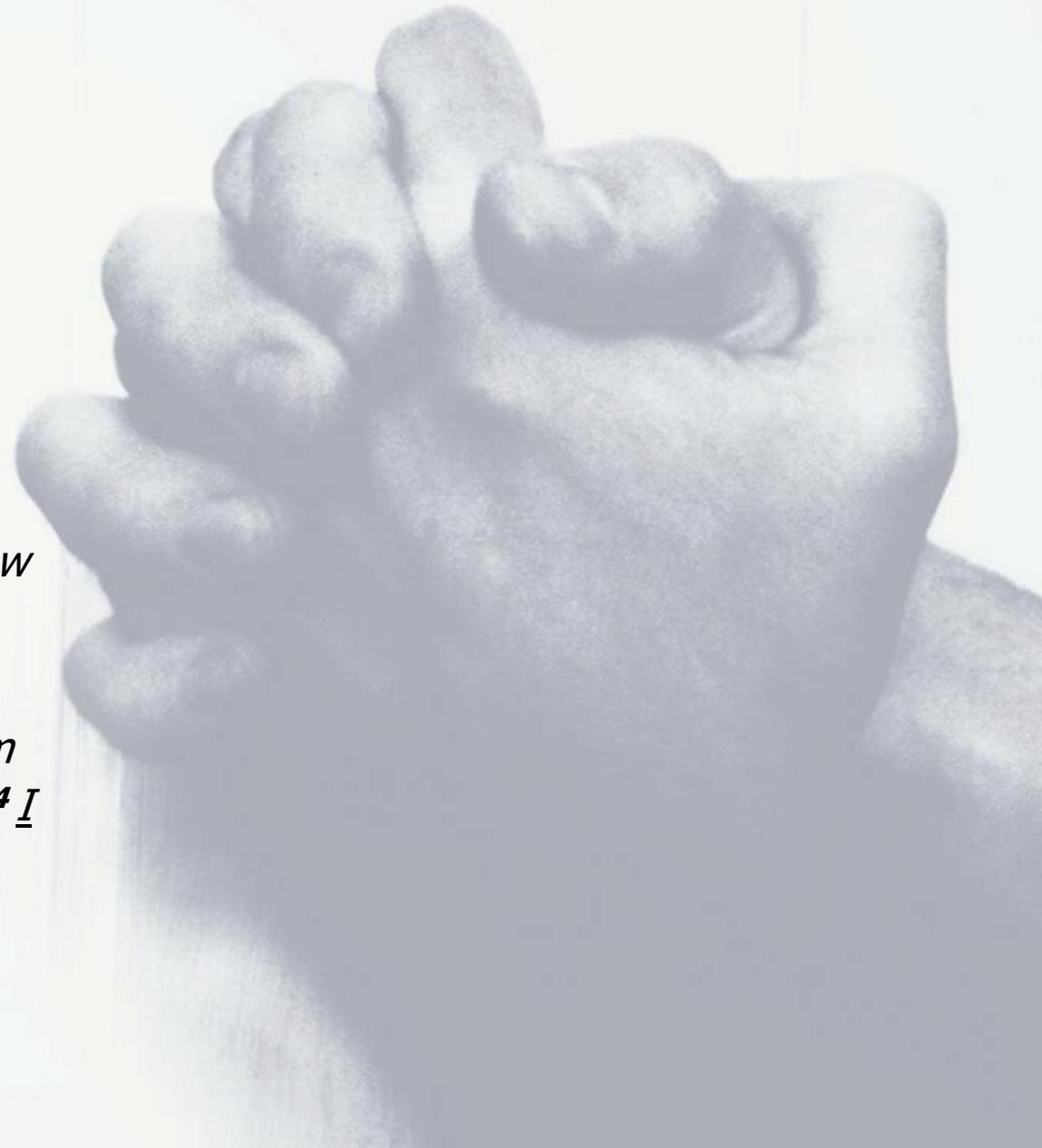
- **What is He praying about?**

1. He's praying about the spiritual liberation of the world.

b. His disciple's part in it. (v.v. 6-19)

⁹ "My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you ...¹¹ Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you.

*¹³ ... "I told them many things while I was with them in this world **so they** would be filled with my joy. ¹⁴ I have given them your word."*



This Week – Jesus at Prayer:

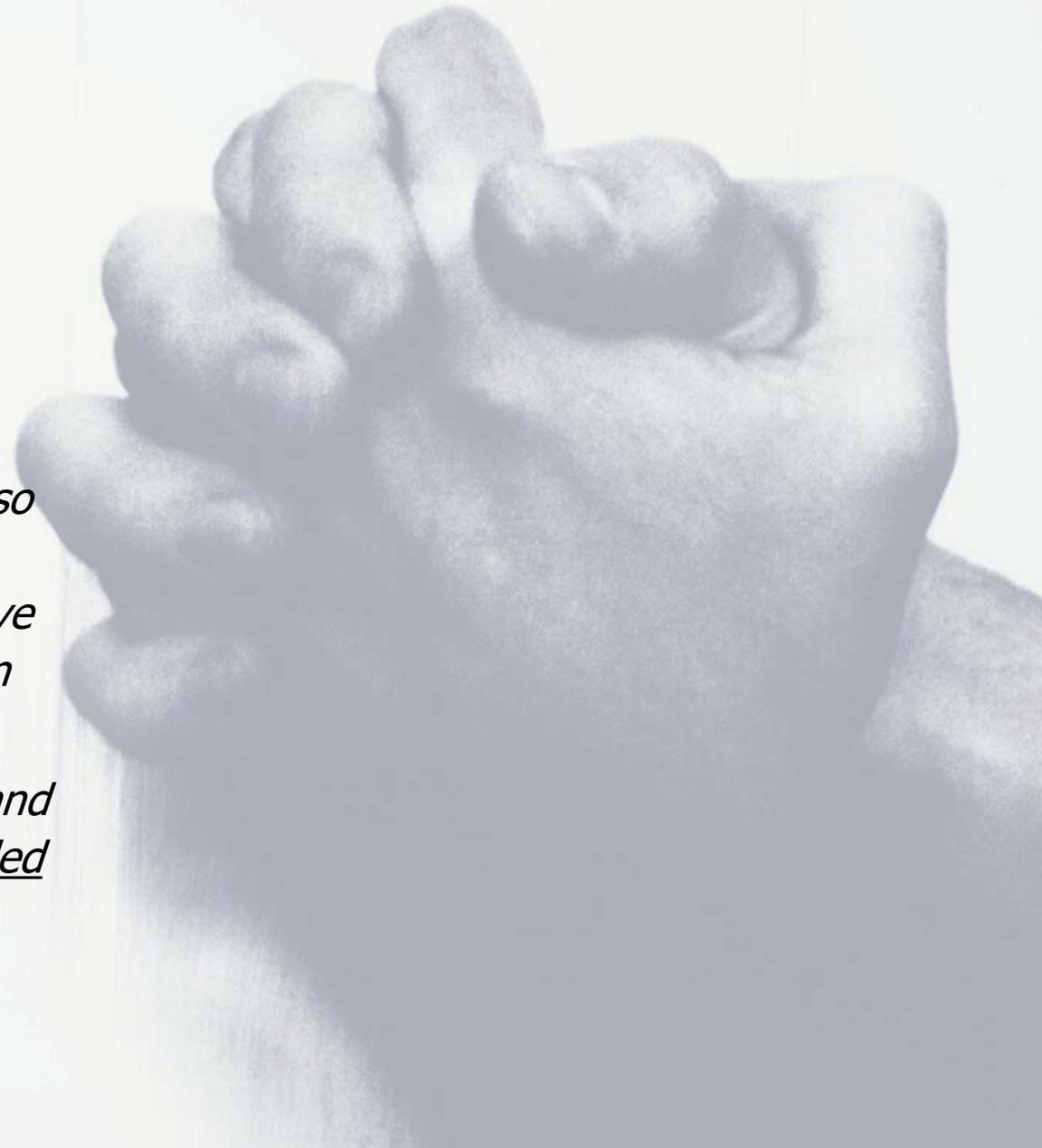
- **What is He praying about?**

1. He's praying about the spiritual liberation of the world.

c. Your part in it. (v.v. 20-26)

*²⁰ "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message ... ²² I have given them the glory you gave me, **so they** may be one as we are one. ²³ I am in them and you are in me.*

²⁵ "Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. ²⁶ I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so."

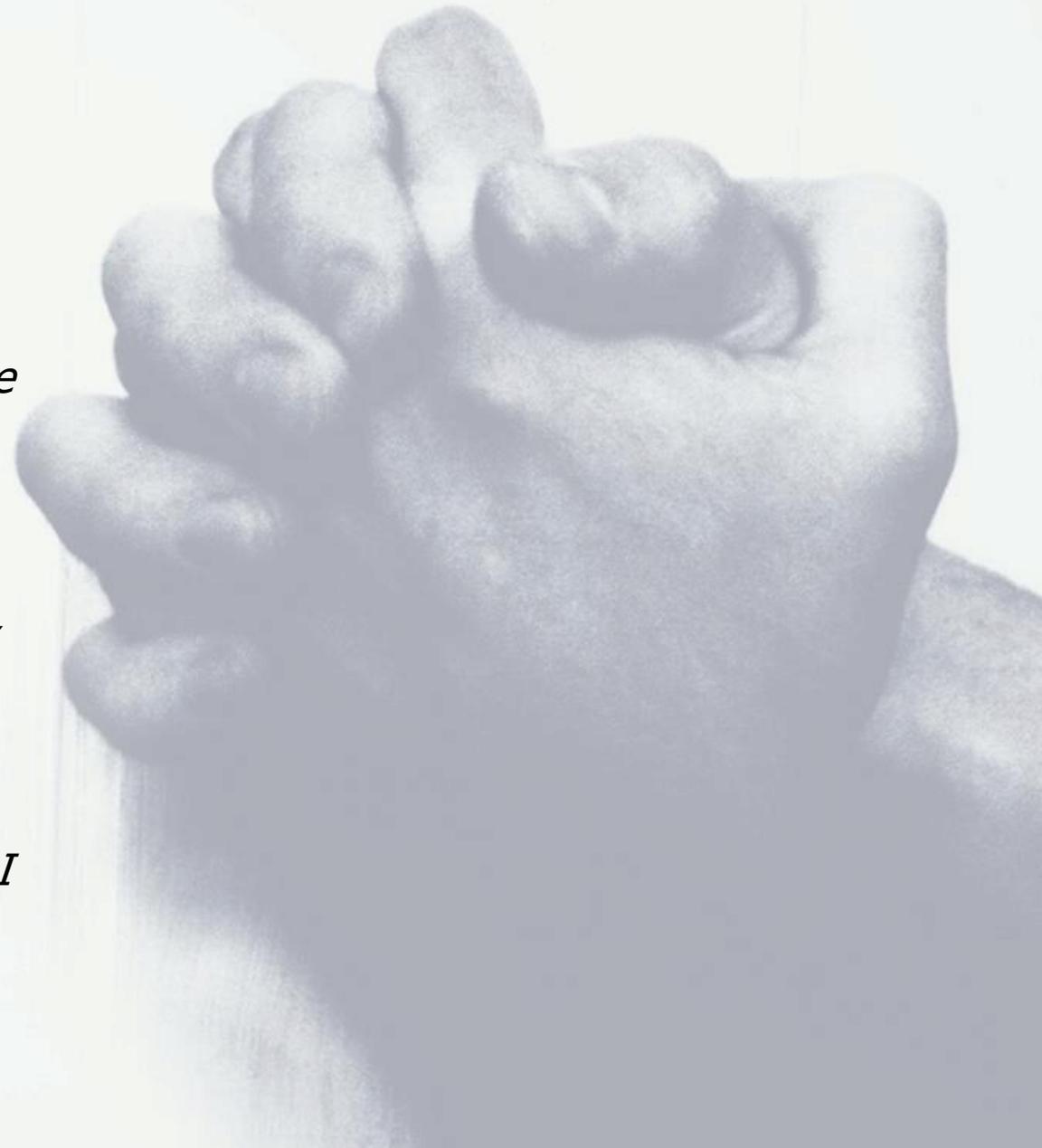


This Week – Jesus at Prayer:

- **What is He praying about?**
2. He's praying about the supernatural protection of His Church.

*⁹ "My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. ¹¹ ... **protect them by the power of your name** ... ¹² During my time here, I protected them by the power of the name you gave me. I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction, as the Scriptures foretold.*

¹³ "Now I am coming to you ... And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world."



This Week – Jesus at Prayer:

- **What is He praying about?**
2. He's praying about the supernatural protection of His Church.

Note – the protection Jesus asks His Father for is not physical, financial, intellectual or even emotional ... it is relational.

*¹¹ "Protect them by the power of your name **so that** they will be united just as we are ... ¹⁵ I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one ...*

*²³ "I am in them and you are in me. **May they experience such perfect unity***

- *that the world will know that you sent me, and*
- *that you love them as much as you love me."*



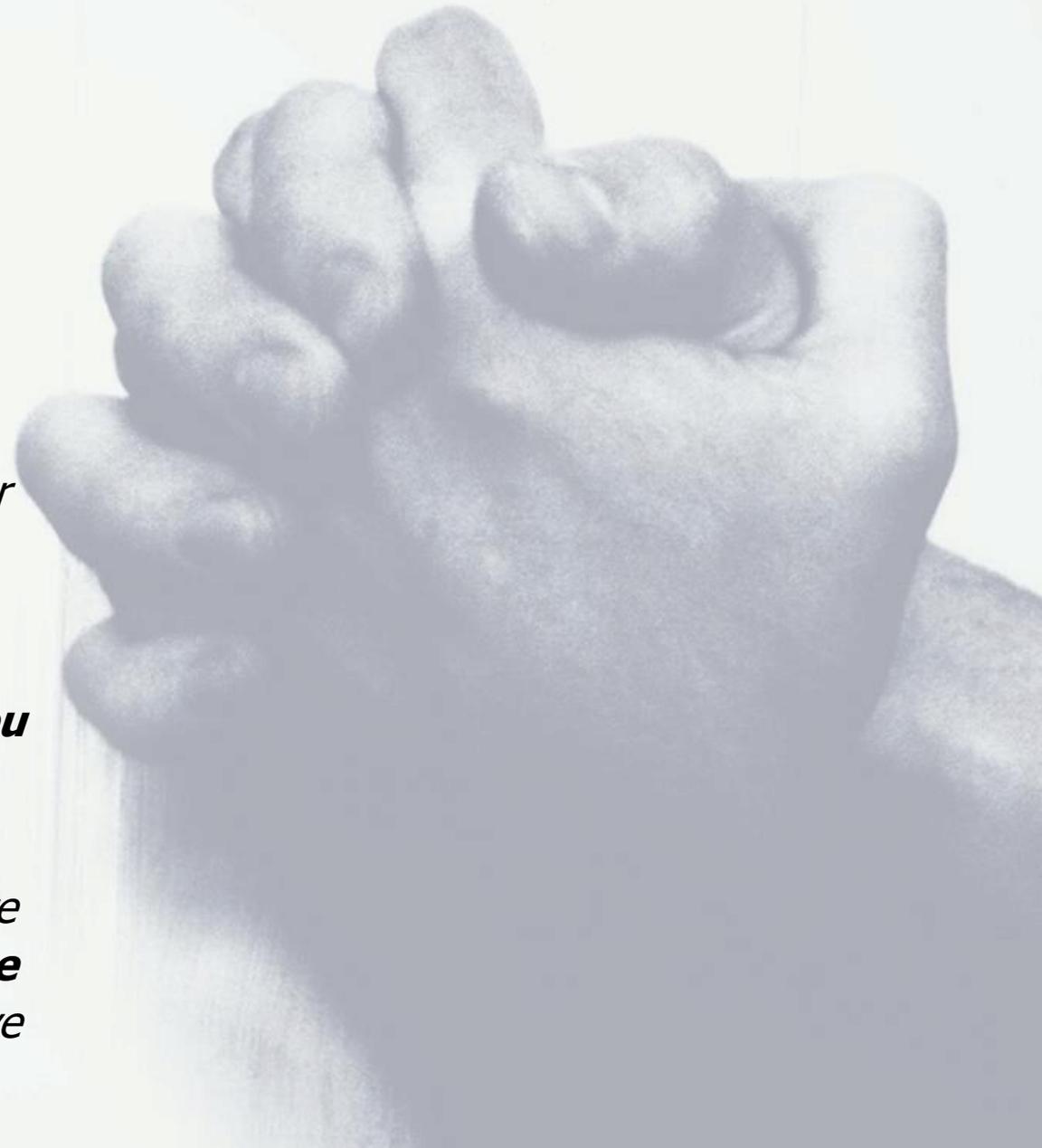
This Week – Jesus at Prayer:

- **What is He praying about?**
3. He's praying about the successful mission of His Church:
- declaring freedom in Jesus.
 - demonstrating freedom in Jesus.

²⁰ "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message.

*²¹ I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one —as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us **so that the world will believe you sent me.***

*²² "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³ I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity **that the world will know that you sent me** and that you love them as much as you love me.*



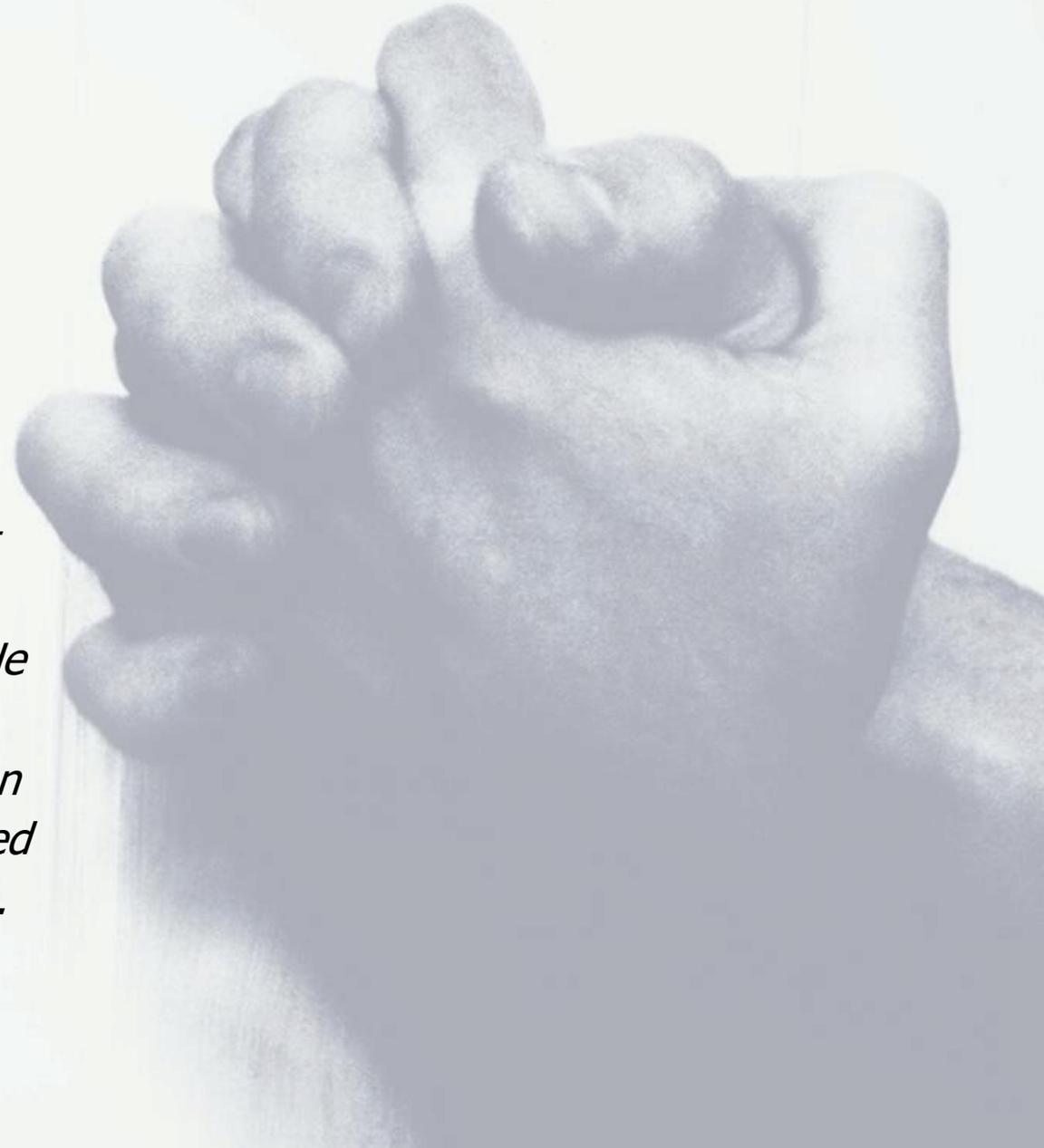
Reminder: What do Christians declare and demonstrate?

1-2-3-4 (Michael Cassidy)

- ONE Gospel Fact.
 - life, death, resurrection and return of Jesus Christ.

³ What I received I passed on to you. And it is the most important of all. Here is what it is. Christ died for our sins, just as Scripture said he would. ⁴ He was buried. He was raised from the dead on the third day, just as Scripture said he would be. ⁵ He appeared to Peter. Then he appeared to the 12 apostles. ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than 500 brothers and sisters at the same time.

1 Corinthians 15



8 "You will receive power", Jesus said to them, "when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Acts 1



Reminder: What do Christians declare and demonstrate?

1-2-3-4 (Michael Cassidy)

ONE Gospel Fact.

- life, death, resurrection & return of Jesus Christ.

TWO Gospel Promises.

- Forgiveness.
- The Holy Spirit.



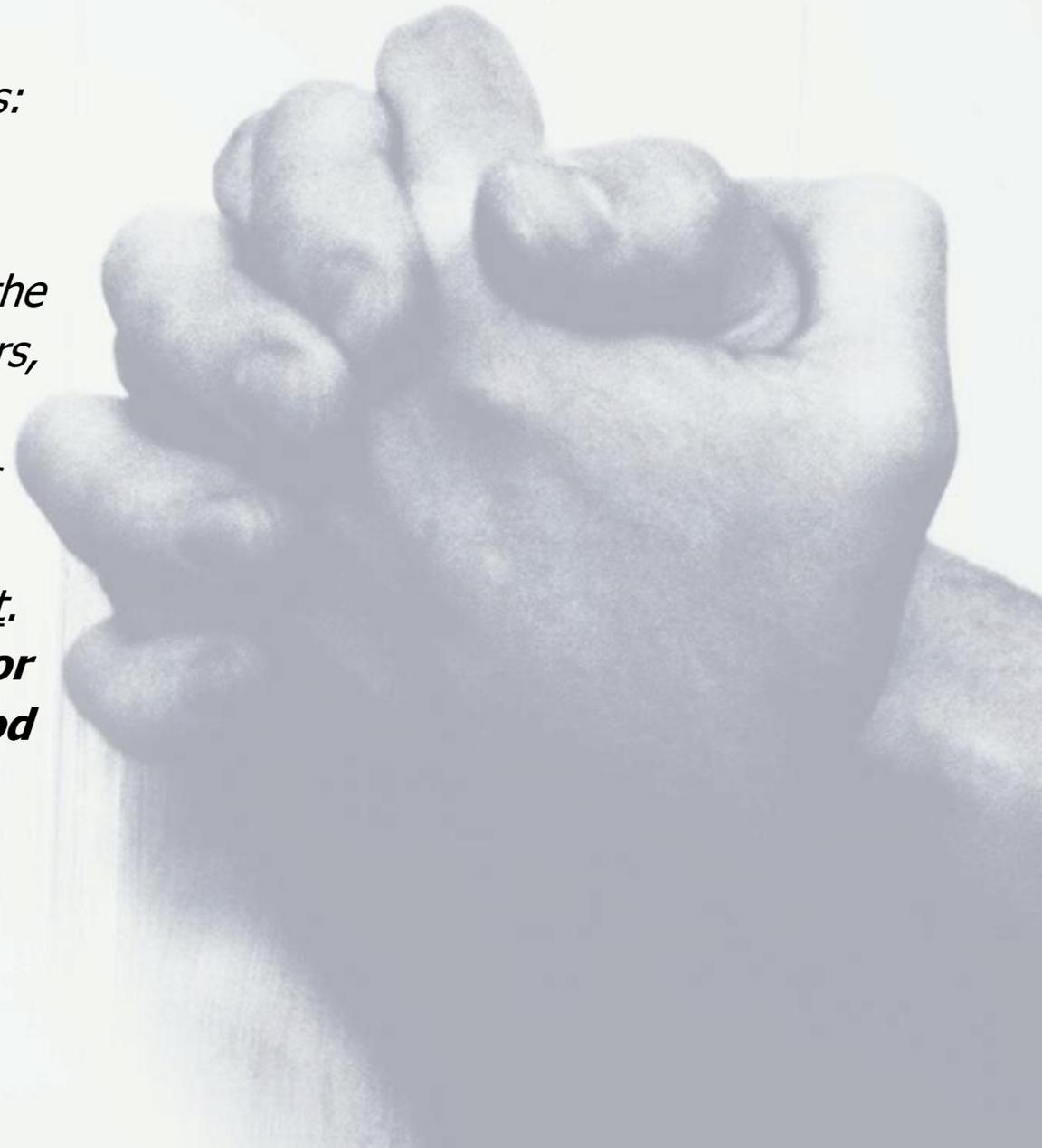
36 Peter said, "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

37 When the people heard his words, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2



Reminder: What do Christians declare and demonstrate?

1-2-3-4 (Michael Cassidy)

ONE Gospel Fact.

- life, death, resurrection & return of Jesus Christ.

TWO Gospel Promises.

- Forgiveness.
- The Holy Spirit.

THREE Gospel Demands.

- Repent – of your sins.
- Believe – in Jesus as your Savior.
- Follow – Jesus as your Master.



*14 Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. **Repent and believe the good news!**"*

*16 As he walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for men & women." 18 **At once they left their nets and followed him.***

*19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, **and they left their father Zebedee with the hired men and followed him.***

Mark 1



Reminder: What do Christians declare and demonstrate?

1-2-3-4 (Michael Cassidy)

ONE Gospel Fact.

- life, death, resurrection & return of Jesus Christ.

TWO Gospel Promises.

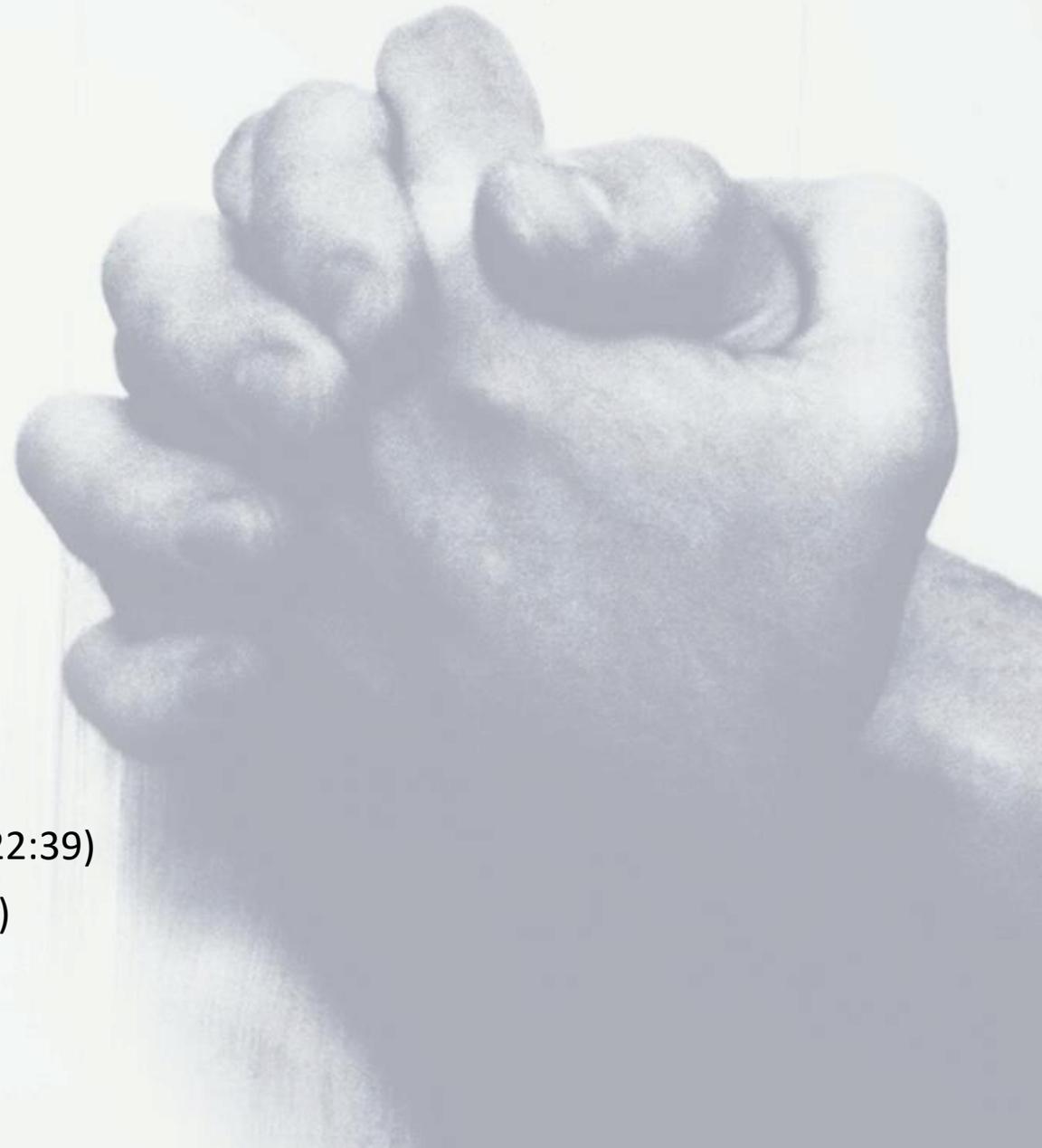
- Forgiveness; The Holy Spirit.

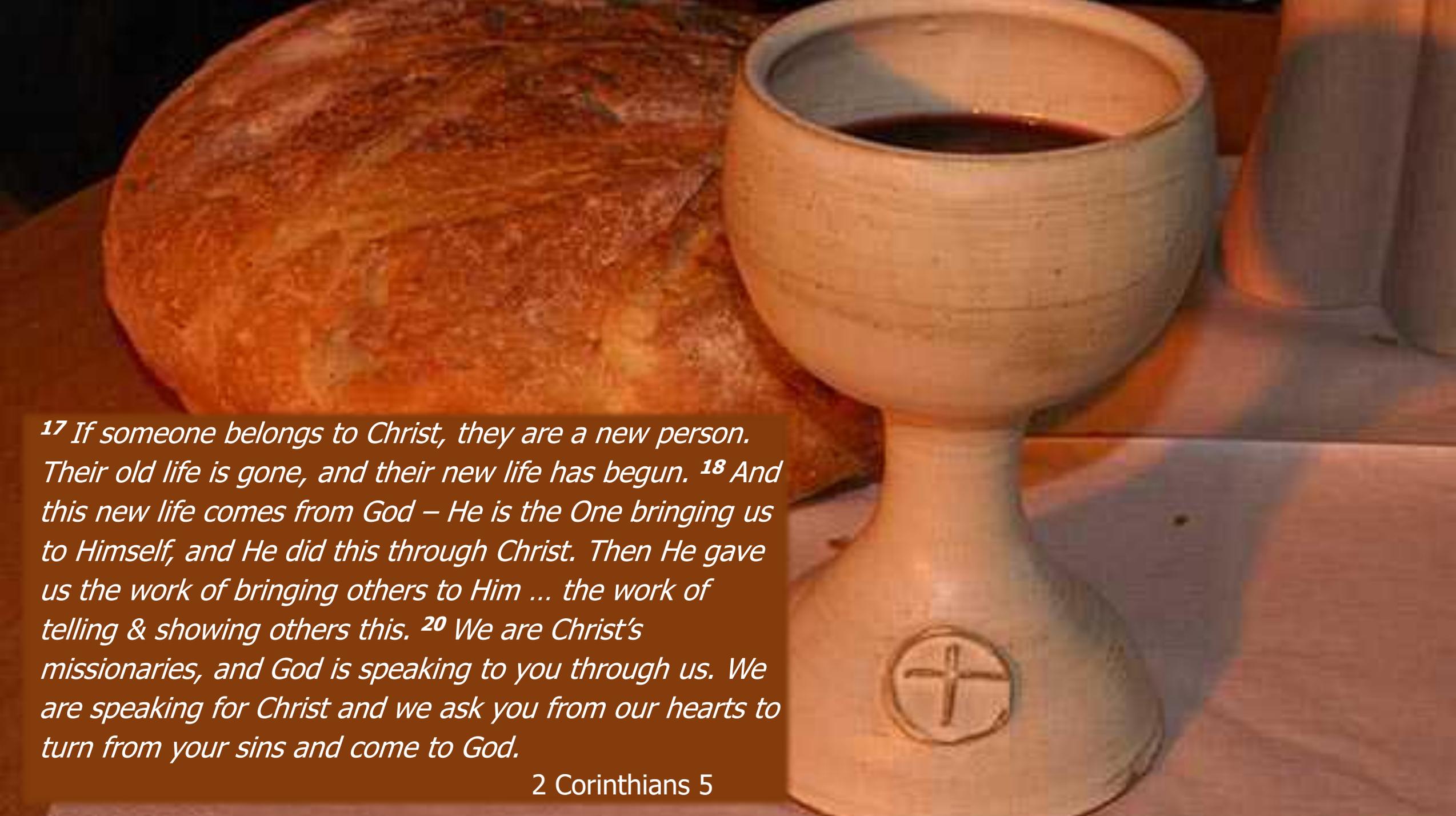
THREE Gospel Demands.

- Repent; Believe; Follow

FOUR Gospel Relationships.

- New Relationship with God. (Mt. 19:27)
- New Relationship with Myself. (Mt. 22:37)
- New Relationship with my Neighbour. (Mt. 22:39)
- New Relationship with the World. (1 Jn. 2:15)





¹⁷ If someone belongs to Christ, they are a new person. Their old life is gone, and their new life has begun. ¹⁸ And this new life comes from God – He is the One bringing us to Himself, and He did this through Christ. Then He gave us the work of bringing others to Him ... the work of telling & showing others this. ²⁰ We are Christ's missionaries, and God is speaking to you through us. We are speaking for Christ and we ask you from our hearts to turn from your sins and come to God.

2 Corinthians 5