

## STUDIES IN PRAYER TO WHOM DO WE PRAY?

John 14:12–14; John 15:16; John 16:23–24

### WHATEVER YOU ASK

#### IN MY NAME

##### PRAYING IN JESUS' NAME ....

**1. means we have been granted access to the Father.** Mark 15:37–38; **Ephesians 2:18**

**2. means the same thing as praying according to the will of God.** 1 Jn 5:14–15

To ask in the name of Jesus means that we ask what Jesus would ask, what would please Him, and what would bring Him glory by furthering His work.

**3. Should we end our prayers by saying “in Jesus Name?”**

#### TO WHOM DO WE PRAY?

(Distinguish between Fellowship and Petition)

John 16:23–24, 26–27; Hebrews 1:1–3

##### ABOUT PRAYING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Our conversation with the Spirit would most likely be centered around that **fellowship** and the primary role of the Holy Spirit in our lives. John 16:8–11

##### ABOUT PRAYING TO JESUS

Most of our prayers to Jesus would most likely be around our **fellowship** with Him. That is...

\*Expressing our love and gratitude to Him as our Savior.

\*Expressing our allegiance to Him as our Lord.

\*Interaction around our mission of making disciples

##### ABOUT PRAYING TO THE FATHER

While we can ask of Jesus for specifics, it appears that Jesus gave great emphasis to us of the importance of coming to the Father with most of our **petitions**.

John 16:23–24, 26–27

The traditional formula has always been that we are to pray to the Father, through the Son, by the power of the Spirit.

##### SUGGESTION:

Try beginning your prayer by acknowledge Jesus as your reason for having access to God.

You might say something like this, “I come to you Father with confidence that You hear me because Jesus has made this possible by dying for my sins.”

Or “Thank you Father for hearing my prayer today because of what Jesus did for me on the cross.”

##### John 16:23–24, 26–27 (ESV)

<sup>23</sup> In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you **ask of the Father** in my name, he will give it to you. <sup>24</sup> Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. <sup>27</sup> **for the Father himself loves you,** because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. <sup>28</sup> I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”