We are members of the Oak Ridge church of Christ. We call ourselves Christians ([**Acts 11:26**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%2011:26)) and we hold to the Bible as our one and only Truth. Church of Christ is a biblical description of Christians who work together for the cause of Christ ([**Ro. 16:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%2016:16)). We are independent assemblies with no organization beyond our own number as described in [**Phil. 1:1**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Philippians%201:1). There are Christians across the world working with local congregations of God’s people such as described in [**Rev. 2**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Revelation%202)**-3**. Christians are members of Christ’s body, which is also known as His Church ([**Acts 2:47**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%202:47)**,**[**Eph. 5:23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%205:23)). Our mission is to stand for God’s truth (the gospel) and teach it to all people ([**Matt. 28:18-20**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Matthew%2028:18-20)**,**[**Romans 1:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%201:16)**,**[**1 Tim. 3:15**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=1%20Timothy%203:15)). We are accountable to our one and only Head Jesus Christ ([**Eph. 1:22-23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%201:22-23)**,**[**Col. 1:18**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Colossians%201:18)).

**The Model Prayer – John Chapter 17**

In this lesson we will study what really could be called the Model Prayer.

**John 16:1-4** – The disciples are told they will face some tough times. Jesus provides them instructions in the rest of **John Chapter 16**. Then He prays, what we could call, **The Model Prayer** in **Chapter 17**. We want to focus on that prayer tonight.

Prayer is a gift and a blessing from God. And Jesus living, dying, and raising from the dead has become our Great High Priest. We can pray directly to God through Him, in His name (**Hebrews 2:17-18, 4:14-16**). And when we do that He hears our thankfulness, our praise for Him, and we can ask Him to help us with whatever we need. We can also pray for others that we know need physical, mental, or spiritual help (**Philippians 4:6-7**).

***Have you ever intensely prayed for something?*** Praying for a spouse, to have kids, for your children when they are struggling, when kids get married, grandkids, looking for a job, when you are struggling as a parent or struggling in your marriage, when you see others in need, or you see other brethren struggling with their faith, when you are not sure how to talk to someone or study with someone, when something good happens you give thanks, when you have sin you repent, when you are sick or others are sick; You Pray! Prayer is powerful and is to be used often. Some of us take a few moments at 9am each morning to pray together. We have been doing this for 18 months and it has been a great thing for us all! Jesus is getting ready to leave His disciples and he prays about it! Jesus shows us how to pray in **John Chapter 17**!

Prays for Himself – **17:1-5** (**John 1:1-5, Hebrews 1:1-2, Genesis 1:26**)

Prays for the Apostles – **17:6-19** (**John 6:66-71, Acts 5:28-32**)

Prays for us – **17:20-26** (**Ephesians 4:1-6, 11-16**) – this is still the Lord’s desire

**CONCLUSIONS**

When you think about what the Lord has done for us, it demands our obedience. He created all that we know. He created us and the world for our use. He knew we needed a Savior so He came to earth in the form of a man and was tempted more than any of us will ever be tempted. But he did it without sin so He could be our perfect sacrifice for our sins, the Lamb of God!

Then He allowed Himself to die on the cross, being crucified by those He created. He even asked for their forgiveness before He died. Then he overcame death by being resurrected and walked the earth for 40 days before He ascended to Heaven. Then He sent the Holy Spirit to guide the apostles in all truth. And on the day of Pentecost about 2,000 years ago, His church was started. And anyone, no matter what race or nationality could become a disciple and have their sins washed away (**Acts 2:36-42, 47**).

And before He died He prayed for you and he prayed for us! If you are not a Christian, the Master is calling you now to become a Christian. Repent of your sins and be baptized now, not tomorrow, not next week, not next year; but right now!

If you are a Christian who is not living up to the Lord’s expectations, He wants you to repent and do better right now!

Please check the scriptures we have covered tonight. We want to help you in any way we can. Contact us for Bible studies by telephone, e-mail, or simply come to one of our assemblies. Contact: We assemble at 225 North Purdue Ave. in Oak Ridge at 9am on Sundays and 7pm on Wednesdays; **oakridgechurch.com**; **david.barry@oakridgechurch.com****,** **murray.wade@oakridgechurch.com****;** (865) 693-1416.

For our next live program in two weeks on **November 1, 2021** we hope to study, **"Doubting Thomas - Doubting Disciples - Doubting Today”** We hope to see you next time on "**Speaking The Truth In Love**".