

Children and family talk for 16th May 2021

Hello everyone, it's good to have you with me as we explore more of the Bible together and praise God. We will start today by singing;

Majesty:

Majesty, worship His Majesty,
Unto Jesus be glory, honour and
praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority,
Flow from His throne unto His own,
His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of
Jesus.

Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus
the King.

Majesty, worship His Majesty.
Jesus who died, now glorified,
King of all kings.

Jack W. Hayford. SoF 379, JP 160, MP 454
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Our Bible reading today is from John 17 verses 6-19 where Jesus talks to His Father God, shortly before he is arrested.

"I have shown you to those you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you, for I have passed onto them the message you gave me. They accepted it and know that I came from you, and they believe you sent me.

My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory. Now I am leaving the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are. 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 Scripture foretold.

Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with joy. I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. They do not belong to this world anymore than I do. Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth."

Now let's sing again; **Father God I wonder**

Father God I wonder how I managed to exist without the knowledge of your parenthood and your loving care.

But now I am child, I am adopted in your family,

And I can never be alone,

'cause Father God, you're there beside me!

I will sing your praises,

I will sing your praises,

I will sing your praises,

Forever more. (X2)

Ian Smale. SoF 92/MP 128 (348)

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Let's talk about our Bible verses

This reading is part of a whole chapter where Jesus is talking to God in prayer. Last week we looked at how Jesus is our friend. Here He is asking God to protect and look after his special friends. Jesus points out that his friends belong to God and that he, Jesus came from God. Jesus talks about leaving the world and going to be with his Father in heaven. But to do this, he has to leave his special friends behind, and he is concerned about them, and so he talks to God and asks God to look after them.

What does this mean for us? As we talked about last week, Jesus is our friend, if we believe in God and try to do as Jesus did, if we can say sorry for anything we have done wrong and want to follow Jesus, just as the disciples did; then we are part of God's family and we no longer belong to this world but to God's world, as Jesus' special friends did. Therefore, God will protect us and keep us safe.

If you are not sure how to be a friend of Jesus, its much like being a friend to anyone. You just need to talk to him often, listen, read about how Jesus lived and try to be more like Jesus. And if you have done anything wrong, you need to be sorry. Then invite Jesus to be your friend. Perhaps you'd like to say this special prayer with me:

Lord Jesus,

I want to be your special friend.

I am sorry for all the things I have done wrong and I will try not to do them again.

Please come into my life and be my friend.

Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out hands as if expecting a present)

And the love of God (Put your hands on your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Hold hands)

Be with us all now and for ever. Amen! (raise hands together on the Amen)

The children's activity sheet from roots:

<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/22511/16-may-activity-sheet.pdf>