

**Handout for lesson on
PRAYING IN JESUS' NAME
Manvel Bible Chapel Family Bible Hour – 26 August 2018**

Opening thoughts

-“IN JESUS' NAME I PRAY” or “IN YOUR NAME I PRAY”

Introduction

-All our blessings come through Christ

Overview of Lesson

1. Why should we pray in Jesus Name?
2. What does it mean to pray in Jesus Name?
3. Consequences of not praying in Jesus' name

Body of Lesson

1. Why should we pray in Jesus' Name?

-All access to God and blessings from God are all through Jesus Christ His Son, our Savior.

--[John 14:5-7](#), [Matthew 18:20](#), [John 14:12-14](#), [John 14:26](#), [John 15:16](#), [John 16:23](#),
[John 16:24](#)

2. What does it mean to pray in Jesus Name?

-Let's return to [John 14:12-14](#) to examine the word “NAME”

--The word "name": 3686 ονομα onoma on'-om-ah represents everything associated with the one named. “the name is used for everything which the name covers,...”

---It **implies mutual intimate knowledge of the one named** since the word is derived “from a presumed derivative of the base of 1097” γινωσκω ginosko ghin-occe'-ko – “to know” as in [John 10:14](#), [John 10:27](#)

---Those who have this relationship with Christ are His ambassadors -- [2 Cor. 5:20](#)

-Conclusions we can thus draw from the idea of praying or otherwise acting in Jesus name.

--One who prays or acts in Jesus name must know Him as Savior.

--They must be representing Him as ambassadors. -- [James 4:3](#)

--Thus, “praying in Jesus name” is far more intimate than just mouthing the words “in Jesus' name.”

--Asking in Jesus name should not become a **vain repetition**. --[Matthew 6:7](#)

--Most of what it means to pray in Jesus' name lies in our relationship with Him.

--However, if we satisfy these requirements, it is a good thing to express this openly.

3. Consequences of not praying in Jesus' name

-Even if we say the words “in Jesus' name” we should not expect our prayers to be answered if we fail to be deeply aware that we have the right to pray only if we have been redeemed by the blood of Christ and given the Spirit of Christ to help us. Without this, our prayers are but empty words.

-If we are praying silently and we are deeply aware of the fact that Christ is our only mediator, this knowledge, rather than the words themselves, has much more to do with the fact that we are praying in Jesus name.

-The only reason for praying publicly is to encourage others to approach God with us, subject to Christ's authority which we acknowledge.

-Those who pray to god without acknowledging God the Son are praying to a different god.

--[John 8:38-45](#)

Summary and Conclusion

-1 Corinthians 3:9-11

-Allowing an unbeliever to feel like they are united with us in our prayer creates a deceptive and dangerous unequal yoke between them and us.

ASHAMED OF JESUS CHRIST?

Are You Ashamed of God the Son?

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I have a friend. He once spoke to me of a problem that troubled him greatly saying, "I've been praying to god about it." My friend is of Hindu persuasion, so I asked, "To which of your gods are you praying?" He held up 10 fingers and began to name 10 gods to whom he prayed most frequently. I told him it made me sad that, while he was praying to 10 "gods," that couldn't save him from sin, he was ignoring the one true God who could. He seemed to appreciate my concern for his soul.

What distinguishes the one true God from all the others? It is that He, alone, created the universe and exists in three persons: God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Only He came as the Father's only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the Messiah, to die and rise again to save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21).

Today, almost anyone can speak of "god" without much opposition. But, when Christians mention "Jesus Christ," the anger and persecution begins. Scripture tells us:

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11).

When I was young, Christians consistently acknowledged, in their prayers, that they were approaching God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ, His Son (see John 16:23). More recently, I've noticed Christians closing their prayers with words like the following:

"In your name I pray. Amen."

Whose name? Are you ashamed to mention the name of Jesus? In this day of confusion, we need to clearly acknowledge, especially in our public prayers, that it is only in the name of Jesus, God's Son, that we can approach God the Father. There is no other way (John 14:6). Jesus said,

"Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels" (Mark 8:38).

Are you ashamed of Jesus Christ?