Series on Prayer & Holiness

- Not about rules and regulations
- Not a program to get what you want from God
- meant to show the importance of intimacy, relationship
- learning how to speak & hear from God:
 - developing a new heart
 - bringing about desire to live differently
- studying how Jesus Prayed to learn

"I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you.

"Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name—the name you gave me—so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. "John 17:6-19

- 1. Who the Prayer is About
 - * Disciples (followers) who have:
 - a) Been Shown
 - seen the Father revealed through Jesus
 - belonged to Father called out to be a part
 - b) Have Accepted the Truth
 - obeyed followed, listened, learned, did as asked

- Now they know:
 - who's will is important, where the power comes from, who is worth living for, dying for
- c) Have Engaged in Mission
 - knew with certainty who Jesus was
 - Believed sent by God the Father

I Pray for Them.....

- 2. Keep Their Focus Right!
 - easily distracted, making mountains out of molehills
 - a) What it is and Where it Comes From
 - all I have is yours....
 - all you have is mine (Nothing withheld)
 - when we do well glory to God not us
 - * Protect Them by the Power of Your Name
 - authority, power, end written, name is powerful

- note the assumed opposition, need protection
- focus on where protection is found, power is to protect
- *May be One as We are One
 - intimate relationship able to talk, hear, know
 - acceptance of Father's will obedient, willing to risk
 - submissive to the plan real but God's way first
 - view beyond the here and now eternal perspective
 - unified, reconciled to one another relationships

- 3. Entrust Them to Your Care
 - a) Protect Them
 - the relationship is about to change
 - I am asking for your covering they are in danger
 - by the Power of Your Name keep them
 - b) Telling Them Now So they Know
 - full measure of my joy within them
 - know they: belong, protected, called, empowered, confident in the presence and plan of God

- c) They Have Encountered Truth:
 - Jesus Understands that
 - Satan wishes destruction
 - Truth is often rejected in our world
 - message flies in the face of culture
 - will be unpopular, opposed, rejected
 - Obvious that they are not of the World
 - stand out to all

- don't remove them, enable them
- 4. Empower Their Lives
 - a) Sanctify them by Truth
 - sanctify set apart, made holy, consecrated
 - truth brings change:
 - transformed by the renewing of your mind
 - word of God ours, truth should bring life response and change

- b) Give them a Clear sense of Mission
 - you sent me I am completing the task
 - I am sending them to do as you asked
 - live as a testament to you
 - lives will be in opposition to cultural values
 - lives that will be under attack

*they are going – be with them

So What

When Praying for Your Leaders

- 1. Would they keep Their Focus on You
 - all they have, all they need from you
 - a) protect them by power of your name
 - b) Hold them close, intimate, reveal yourself to them
- 2. Would they be protected by You
 - know they are being upheld in prayer

- help them proclaim an unpopular message
 - forgive others, serve others, surrender to Your will, purity, holiness, sacrifice, things don't matter
- 3. Empower Them for the Task
 - * Evident Difference in the World
 - * Reveal your Truth bring life change
 - * Give Opportunity to Proclaim in our World
- * Allow them to reveal truth through their lives, just like Jesus