

# Pray For Non-Believers

PASTOR TAVIS HACKATHORN

“I pray not only for these, but also for those who believe in Me through their message.  
May they all be one, as you, Father, are in Me and I am in You.”

JOHN 17:20-21

In John 17, Jesus is reaching the end of His earthly life and earthly ministry. And as His time is drawing to a close, the people that are weighing most on His heart are His disciples, those men who Jesus had walked life with over the past three years. He knew that their time together was almost over and that the task they had before them, to go and make disciples of all nations, was not an easy one. Jesus, in this intimate moment, begins to pray for them. He brings them before the Father and asks for strength, for protection, and for their ongoing spiritual growth and sanctification even after He leaves.

Then, about midway through His prayer, Jesus turns His focus away from the personal well-being of the people He cares for and begins to pray instead for their ministry. He prays that the struggles that they endure and the focus of their life would ultimately point others toward eternity.

As we move toward this Easter season, the same prayer is being prayed over you. Who are the people that God has purposefully placed in your life so that they can hear the message of hope and salvation that is only found in Christ? Whether it is in your school, your workplace, with friends or with family, make no mistake, you and they are not there together by accident. 1 Peter tells us, “But honor the Messiah as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you. This Easter season, are you going to live a life and proclaim a message that makes known the hope that can only be found in King Jesus?”