

## Lesson 4

### PRAY IN THE NAME OF JESUS

Jesus said, "And I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father's glory will be shown through the Son. If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it" **John 14:13-14**. Praying in the name of Jesus is very important, but what does it mean to pray in the name of Jesus? When we pray in the name of Jesus, we think about Jesus and his power. We think of all that he has done for us. We think of his love and the fact that he is praying for us.

1. **Colossians 1:15-16**: Jesus is the same as God. He has always been in heaven with God and the Holy Spirit. In fact, Jesus is the creator of all things. Therefore, we know that it is his power that holds everything together.
2. Mark 1:21-28: Jesus is able to get rid of evil spirits, for he is all-powerful, and the evil spirits must do whatever he says. When we pray in the name of Jesus, we are able to defeat demons, sorcery, witchcraft or other evil powers. **Colossians 2:15**: Jesus destroyed Satan's power when he died on the cross. When we pray for people to give their lives to Jesus and become Christians we must pray in the name of Jesus, for Jesus is able to deliver people from the bondage of sin.
3. **I Corinthians 15:20,54-57**: Jesus won the victory over death and rose again from the grave. He has won the victory over Satan, death and the grave. We can rejoice for there is nothing stronger than the power of Jesus. **Ephesians 1:19-22**: Now Jesus is seated in the place of honor at God's right hand in heaven. When we pray in the name of Jesus we don't need to be afraid because Jesus is there to help us win the battle. His power is stronger than the power of Satan. When Jesus returns, this battle with Satan will be over, and all evil spirits will bow to Jesus, and openly proclaim that Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords (**Philippians 2:10-11**).
4. One time a Christian talked to a non-Christian friend about God, but this man did not show any real interest in God and the Bible. He was not convicted by what he heard, and so he didn't become a Christian. One of Satan's helpers had a strong hold on him. Satan had closed the mind of this man so that he did not believe God's Word.(2 Corinthians 4:4).
5. The Christian prayed more and asked God to break Satan's hold on this man's life so that his mind and heart would be open to hear and understand God's Word. 2 Corinthians 10:4 says, "The weapons we use in our fight are not the world's weapons but God's powerful weapons, which we use to destroy strongholds."
6. After much prayer the Christian went back to the man who had not become a Christian and talked to him once again. The man was now free from the power of Satan, and he was ready to pray and give his heart to Jesus. Prayer, in the name of Jesus, had broken Satan's power in this man's life.
7. Another Christian wanted to preach the gospel to a group of people who were held in bondage by Satan's power. First he prayed for them in the name and power of Jesus. He asked that God would loosen Satan's hold over them, so that these people would be free to come to God. **Matthew 12:29** says, "No one can break into a strong man's house and take away his belongings unless he first ties up the strong man; then he can plunder his house." So first we must pray that people will be set free from Satan's power. We pray that people's hearts and minds will be open and receptive to hear God's Word. Then we can go and preach the good news to them.
8. As Christians we must also pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit. **Ephesians 3:16** says, "I ask God from the wealth of his glory to give you power through his Spirit to be strong in your inner selves". The *Holy Spirit will help us to be strong in our Christian life*. Many people will try to get us to go back to our old way of life. Some will say untruthful and hurtful things about us in order to discourage us. Some will laugh at us and ridicule us for following Jesus, but the Holy Spirit will give us strength and will help us to stay true to Jesus.  
**Ephesians 6:12** says, "We are not fighting against human beings but against the wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this Dark Age." Evil spirits are actually controlling many people who try to get us to turn our back on Jesus. We must pray in the name of Jesus to be filled with the Holy Spirit so he can give us the strength to stand against the evil one.

