

The Prayer Diary

Key Word: **Protect**

Key Verse: As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. *John 17:18*

Sammy wasn't very good at prayer. He thought it was a waste of time, but when things went wrong, he found himself praying. He wasn't sure that God ever heard his prayers. Sammy's parents had taught him a prayer that began, "Gentle Jesus, meek and mild," and ended, "God bless Mommy and Daddy and me and make me a good boy." Sammy thought that prayer was just sad.

Sammy had started confirmation classes at church and they were fun. At the end of the first class, the leader lit a small candle. She invited everyone to look at the candle and open themselves to God. Sammy stared at the candle, and his mind began to relax. He found himself thinking about his granny who was so old there was always something wrong with her. He asked God to bless her. He was sorry when the class ended and the candle was blown out.

The next week, the teacher brought bubbles. She reminded them of the story of Noah and the flood and how God put a rainbow in the sky as a sign that he would always be around. She showed them how every bubble contained a rainbow, and asked them to visually attach their prayers to the bubbles. She said, "As the bubbles

burst, know that your prayer is heard." For the first time, Sammy felt that his prayers were heard by God. It felt so different from before.

The teacher suggested they keep a prayer diary. Sammy didn't tell his friends, but he wrote the date, the time, and the names of everyone who he thought about. Sometimes all by itself, his mind would say, "I love you, God, help my unlove," in rhythm with his footsteps. He wrote it all down in his diary. At the end of the class he read back through the diary. He thought, "When I grow up I'm going to work for Jesus." He had no idea how that thought happened, but he realized it had become real. It wasn't just him saying things to God, God was saying things to him as well!

Prayer became a wonderful experience for Sammy. Sometimes it was easy, sometimes it was hard, but no matter what he did, he couldn't help praying. He gave his whole life into God's hands and he had a deep peace.

Questions

Have you ever tried keeping a prayer diary? Could you try?

What does Jesus pray for in today's scriptures?

WORD FIND

T G P I T E H A L D F G X R
 H J Y K S C F I T S D S N I E
 G E L E S Z W E T H T T G G P G
 V O I E V E N X O U A K K E J I S T
 A G I V E N E R W L L T K E E J I S T
 A V E C Z E R E E A H N U G L F T
 N O E I Y W B O O S N J X O U B H
 E S I Z B W W C H E L D B P N M T J
 S T C O O F R H R A H A E B H K R N O
 R E G O V A F E S H R R O F E L P L O
 H O D I O U N V T E X T D I P E
 H B R I L I N S X X I N D L O L K N B

LETTER TILE

I AM NOT ASKING YOU TO TAKE THEM OUT OF THE WORLD, BUT I ASK YOU TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE EVIL ONE.

WORD SCRAMBLE

GLORIFIED WORLD
 PROTECT BELONG
 ASKING HOLY
 DESTINED GIVEN
 COMPLETE

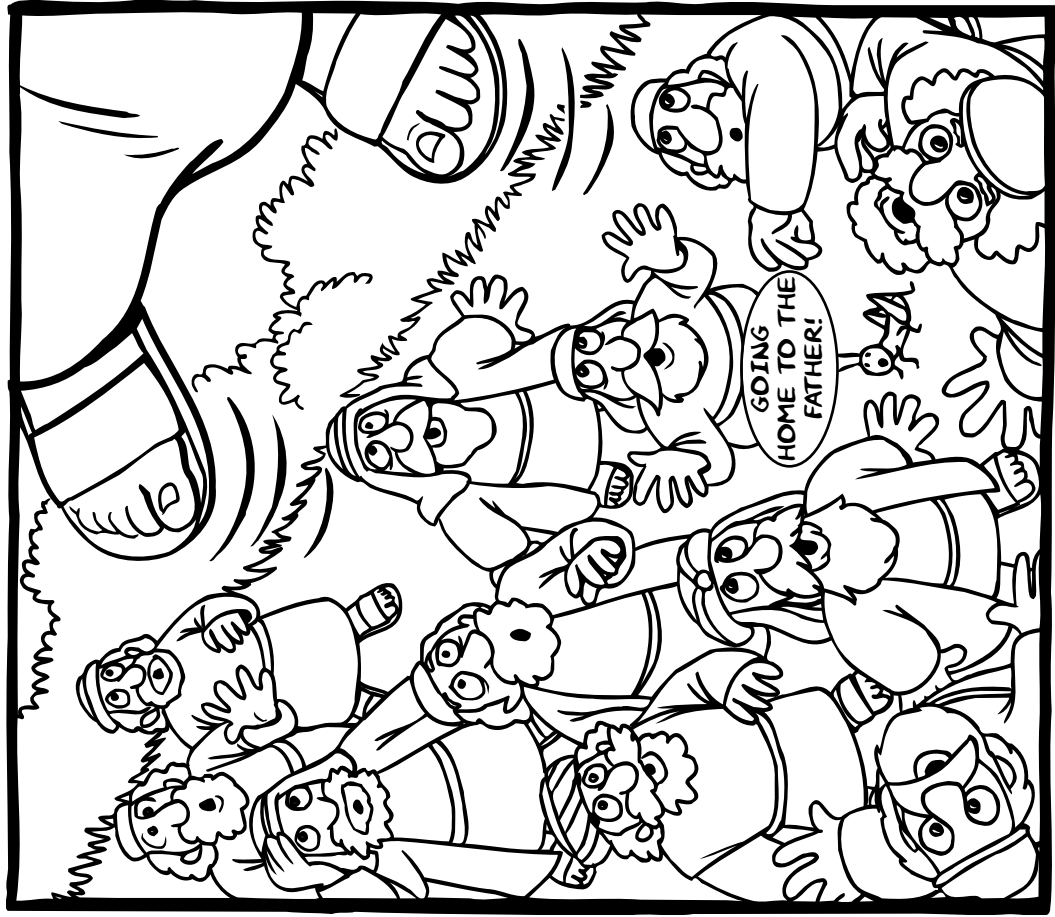
Secret Word: **SANCTIFY**

Answers

WORD FIND

Gospel Grams

Today's Gospel Story is from **John 17:6-19**



Word Scramble Puzzle

Unscramble each of the clue words and write the letters in the boxes. Take the letters that appear in the boxes and unscramble them for the secret word.

IEGFDOILR

CTTOERP

GNAKSI

DEEDSTIN

TECOMLEP

DWOLR

NGLOBE

HYLO

VIGNE

THE SECRET WORD IS:

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Letter Tile Puzzle

Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message from today's Gospel story. Each tile has the same number of characters (letters, spaces, and punctuation). Spaces are shown as blanks on the letter tiles.

ASK ECT U T EVI EM I A BUT ING M N OUT
 TH OT OF I ASK YO LO YO NE U T
 O T TH D E W FRO EM HE ROT M T AKE
 O P ORL TH

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Word Find Puzzle

Using the word list, see how many words you can find in the puzzle below and circle them. The words are from today's Gospel story, John 17:6-19. Remember, they could go across, up, down, or diagonally. The first one is done for you.

M R S T D E N I T S E D H K L N
 E X S E C V Q R R N J W P E K O
 H G I R B C U U M I A M B A A
 T H J Y K S C F T S D **A** N L E B
 G F L E S Y M T H I N G S G P G
 V Q B W N E M R L T K **E** E J S Y
 A G I V E N X Q U A K K N L P T
 O V D C Z E B E E A H N T G F L
 N O E Y W B C Q S N J Y O U R H
 E S T Z B W O R L D P N M T O J
 S T C O F B G H A E B H K R N O
 K E E G V E S B K Q F O L P O N
 E U T I O L B R Y T E V I L P E
 P R O R U O N I V A A A U L P Q
 T B R K L N A S K I N G L K N B
 T G P P J G B E H A L F F G X R

WORD LIST

~~AGE~~
 ASKING
 BEHALF
 BELONG
 DESTINED
 EVIL
 GIVEN
 KEPT
 MYSELF
 NAME
 ONE
 PROTECTED
 SAKES
 SENT
 SPEAK
 THEM
 THINGS
 TRUTH
 WORLD
 YOUR