

To come to the Father through Jesus

When you pray for people to become followers of Jesus, you are praying for them to love and enjoy God as their Father. You can pray with specific clarity as you shape your prayers after the clear statement of Jesus in John 14:6 about how people to come to the Father. In this session our prayers will be focused on how Jesus can become the way, how He can reveal the truth, and how He can impart God's life to those who are far from the Father.

1. For Jesus to become for them the way.

Apart from God, people may appear to be doing well, living in the traditions and patterns of their culture. But in fact, every person finds themselves distant from God, trapped in their own transgressions, isolated from heaven's life and God's joy. Pray that people will be aroused to seek God, but in fact, that in their seeking, that they will be found by Him as Christ becomes for them the way to the Father.

Offer praise before praying:

"Jesus, You are more than a helper. You are more than a mere guide. You do more than point the way. You actually bring people to God so that they can know Him fully."

And then pray:

"Become for (insert their name) the way to know and love the Father."

John 14:6

*Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father but through Me."*

2. For Jesus to reveal Himself as the truth.

Christ is much more than an access or an approach to God. He is not just a mediator who brings people close to God. He is Himself the truth of God and the life of God. He does more than disclose truth, He exposes what is unreal and brings people before God in radical reality.

Offer praise before praying:

"Jesus, You are more than a set of teachings. You are far more than a great teacher who knows true things. You are truth itself. You dispel every falsehood. You expose every fear. You displace all that is fake or phony. Your truth transforms people to be genuine."

And then pray:

"Show Yourself to (insert their name) as the truth revealing the Father."

3. For Jesus to impart His life.

Because of sin that runs rampant throughout the human race, there is somehow a death in our being. You are praying for a dead person to be raised to life. Before Jesus died, He said that God had given Him authority to lay His life down and to take it up again. He was raised to a new order of life. Now He has authority from God to give spiritual life to any that He chooses.

Offer praise before praying:

"Jesus, You are more than a coach or consultant. You gave us far more than a pattern to live. You gave us life itself. You are not merely alive. You are the life-giver of all who live before God."

And then pray:

"Become in (insert their name) the life of God to love the Father."

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This session is a straightforward way of praising and praying with a special focus on Jesus. Remember that every session of FreshPrayer is designed to help people pray in creative, biblical ways for those who have yet to follow Christ.

In this session, we'll be praying in accordance with the very familiar passage of John 14:6. This verse is usually held as an argument for the deficiency of every other religious system. But rarely are the marvelous excellencies and uniquenesses explored. Pray that Jesus would reveal Himself and cause these three things to become a reality in the lives of specific people.

Focus your prayers

You can seek some variation when using this guide as a group by asking particular participants to pick which of the three points might be most pertinent for a person they are praying for. This is a simple exercise which gets people thinking over both the scripture and the people they are praying for. You need people to do both to pray their best prayers.

The prayer guides have a blank space into which participants can speak out the name of a particular person. It sometimes helps to have them write that person's name down just above that space before they read it aloud.

1. Praise

Have someone read the first round of praise concerning Jesus being "the way." Ask people how they might add to it in spontaneous ways. You can do this in each of the three rounds in different ways.

2. Prayer

After expressing praise in each of the three parts, invite participants to focus their prayers on a particular person. Ask them to read the sentence boldly and slowly with the other participants listening and agreeing with the prayer.

Perhaps they are praying for three people? Then decide which of the three names would be most appropriately prayed in each of the three rounds of prayers.