7th Sunday of Easter

John 17:1-11a
Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

"I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you."

Some things to think about...
- Jesus is speaking to the Father - praying for us
- He is asking God that His followers be protected and given strength through one another and with God's love.
- How can we as Mini Vinnies stay connected to others and be a support?
- How can we make sure we stay close to God to lean on Him to give us stength in all of our actions?

Activities
We want to make sure that as many people as possible know God's love-and we are the ones who can share this Good News. Jesus prayed in that moment for the people that God had given to Him, His followers. Let's think about the people in our lives who we can pray for. Write a prayer for each of these people to ask God for strengh for them and continued love. Gift that person your prayer card to stay connected with them and to share God's love.

Teacher's Notes

Even in the most difficult time in Jesus' life, we see how He reaches out to His father in prayer, not for Him, but for the safety and strength of His followers, which continues for us to this day. From this Gospel, we too can see the need to draw on the strength of God in our times of need and not rely on our own strength.

Notes:

A prayer for...

A prayer for...

A prayer for...

A prayer for...