Prayer in the Time of Prayer

John 16:16-33

I. There's a double meaning in that!

- A. The (second) prophet John
- B. In John's Gospel, Jesus often speaks of two things at once (16)
- C. The experience of the first prepares us for the second

II. The disciples' (and our) confusion

- A. The shyness of the student (10, 17-18; see 14:2-3)
- B. The kindness of the teacher (19)

III. The coming sorrow

- A. The birth pains (see Acts 3:15; 1 Corinthians 2:8; Isaiah 66:9; Matthew 24:8; Revelation 12:2)
- B. Lasting joy (see Acts 10:42; 2 Timothy 4:1; 1 Peter 4:5; Matthew 3:11; 13:40; 2 Peter 3; Isaiah 25:8; Revelation 7:17; 21:4)

IV. The time of prayer

- A. Prayer is for this moment
- B. Now is when prayer is necessary (23-24; see 1 Thessalonians 1:6)
- C. Now is when prayer is *possible* (26-27; see Genesis 18:22-33; Numbers 21:7; 11:1-2; 1 Samuel 12:23)
- D. Speaking plainly? (28, 31-33)

V. The reason for prayer

- A. What is prayer for?
- B. Pray with joy (20, 24; see Revelation 5:9-10; 22:20)
- C. Pray with hope (16; see Ephesians 1:22; Psalm 98:8-9)
- D. Pray with courage (33)