

(1) Take a few minutes at the start and read aloud all the way through John 17. Why do think this prayer, rather than the prayer in Matthew 6:9-15, is truly “The Lord’s Prayer”?

(2) Does it encourage you to hear of God’s complete and irresistible sovereignty over the life and death of his Son, Jesus Christ? Talk about the significance of our Lord’s reference to his “hour” throughout the gospel of John. Now read Psalm 139:16 and what this says about the “hour” of your death. How does this strike you? Is it encouraging and comforting? If not, why not?

(3) Read John 17:4-5 again. Why is it important for us to understand and affirm the eternal pre-existence of the Son of God? What would be the implications for Christian faith if the Second Person of the Godhead had been created at a point in time?

(4) Now read John 17:22. Does this strike you as outlandish? Unbelievable? What could Jesus possibly have meant when he said he has given his “glory” to his disciples . . . and to us?

(5) Why is it an expression of consummate love for us that Jesus should ask the Father to glorify him so that he can glorify the Father? Why is this not an instance of selfish megalomania?