

JOHN 17

A STUDY ON JESUS' HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER



Where We're Going

and what to expect.

Over the course of five weeks, we will be slowly walking through Jesus' prayer in John 17.

According to *GotQuestions.org*, "Jesus prays this (prayer) after He finishes His final instructions to the disciples and before He is betrayed, arrested, and crucified. First, Jesus prays for Himself, then He prays for His disciples, and He closes the prayer by praying for all believers. This intercessory prayer is commonly called Jesus' High Priestly Prayer."

During our time in the Sunday service and in our Life Groups, we are going to learn more about what Jesus is praying and how we can grow from knowing this prayer and partnering with Him.

It would be beneficial to use the Moody Bible Commentary for preparation and guidance during this series. You will be able to find guidance for this particular chapter of Scripture on pages 1653-1654.

The goal is not to know everything by the end of the series. Rather, it is to incrementally grow in our understanding and spiritual practices.

Here is our outline for the next five weeks.

Week 1: John 17:1-5

Week 2: John 17:6-12

Week 3: John 17:13-19

Week 4: John 17:20-23

Week 5: John 17:24-26

Week 2

John 17:6-12 {ESV}

6 "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. **7** Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. **8** 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. **9** I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. **10** All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. **11** And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. **12** While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

Head, Heart, Hands

CHANGING WHAT WE KNOW, WHO
WE WORSHIP, AND HOW WE SERVE.

HEAD:

In today's verses, we see Jesus shifting His focus on what He is asking the Father. Use your time in this section to gain a better understanding of verses 6-12.

What is the first thing that stands out to you in these verses? How might you give it a word or short phrase to convey the verses' theme?

How did Jesus "manifest" God's name?

Who is Jesus praying for in these verses? How do you know this? (*Is He praying for everyone in the world or certain people?*)

What does Jesus mean by saying the people whom the Father had given to Jesus "kept (God's) word"? What can you recall from Scripture that illustrates that these disciples kept God's word?

What is the relationship that Jesus highlights between the Father, Son, and disciples in verses 7-10?

What does Jesus mean when He says that He is not praying for the world? Does this bring clarity for you in this section? Or does it provide confusion? Why do you answer this way?

In verse 11, what does Jesus mean by saying that He is no longer in the world? (Remember, this prayer is before His crucifixion and resurrection.)

What is Jesus' hope and desire when He prays "keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one"?

Who does Jesus mean by referring to the son of destruction in verse 12? Why is this important?

HEART:

After reading this section, how has your understanding of Christ's love and care for His disciples changed? If it hasn't changed, how might you be encouraged by these verses? What could practically change in the way that you view Jesus' love for you?

In what way(s) have you seen God keeping you close to Him and protecting you by His grace? How often do you meditate on such occurrences? How does that cause you to worship? Or does it?



HANDS:

You might call this section "Jesus' Requests for the Eleven." Though it is true Jesus was praying for His disciples in this moment, we can still learn and apply truth from this section of His High Priestly Prayer. A major theme in this portion of Jesus' prayer is protection for the disciples.

How are you praying for the protection of other Christians? If you are not, would you consider praying for other Christians from your Life Group, from Legacy, and from around the world to be protected from the flesh, the world, and the enemy?

"There is a straightforward way to know if you are growing in conversing with God. If your prayers are becoming more simple and if your conversation requires less (less words, less worries), then you are moving into deeper ways of prayer." – François Fénelon

CLOSING:

Spend time praying as a group. If there is anything from today's verses that particularly struck you, pray those words or that theme as well.