

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 5

John 17:24-26 {ESV}

24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. **25** O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. **26** I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Head, Heart, Hands

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

HEAD:

In today's verses, we see the conclusion of Jesus' High Priestly Prayer. In your group, you may consider walking through the whole prayer again to see what you have gleaned from our series. Or you may choose just to answer the questions on this page that focus on the three verses that Pastor Kevin preached on. Whatever you decide to do with your group, I know that it will be of immense benefit to everyone in your group.

In Sunday's sermon, the main focus was on the love of God for Jesus' disciples. This will be our focus again today as well. The love of God is meant to be experienced, not just once, but in a daily and abiding way.

What does Jesus mean by saying that the love with which the Father loved Him, may be in the disciples?

When Jesus prays that He desires for His disciples to be with the Father, what does He mean by this? What does this request entail for the future? How does this request make you feel?

In verse 25, we see two repeated themes from earlier portions of Jesus' prayer. What are those themes? (*Lostness of the world & Jesus sent into the world*) Why are those themes important to Christians today?

How has Jesus continued to make God's name known in the world (v. 26)?

HEART:

Do you receive God's love easily? Why or why not?

How do conversations regarding love and emotions make you feel? Are you comfortable with talking about feelings of love and emotions? Why or why not?



Where have you been experiencing the love of God lately?

Why is it important to meditate upon God's love frequently? (*You may consider the fact that a person can't eat one meal a week and be healthy. Similarly, we can't think or experience God's love infrequently if we want to be healthy, growing Christians.*)

HANDS:

Do you often talk about God's love for you with other people? Do you tell others about His love for them? Why or why not?

How can this group go out on mission together to share the good news of God's great love for people? Brainstorm ways for your group to do this.

*"Fundamentally, God gave you emotions to connect you, bind you, and draw you to himself."
- J. Alasdair Groves & Winston T. Smith*

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.