

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
Sermon Study Equipping Class

John 17:13-21

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read John 17:13-21.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined>. Commands are double-underlined>. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

- 13     “But now I come to You;  
          and these things I speak in the world  
              so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.
- 14     “I have given them Your word;  
          and the world has hated them,  
              because they are not of the world,  
              even as I am not of the world.
- 15     “I do not ask You to take them out of the world,  
          but to keep them from the evil one.
- 16     “They are not of the world,  
          even as I am not of the world.
- 17     “Sanctify them in the truth;  
          Your word is truth.
- 18     “As You sent Me into the world,  
          I also have sent them into the world.
- 19     “For their sakes  
          I sanctify Myself,  
              that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.
- 20     “I do not ask on behalf of these alone,  
          but for those also who believe in Me  
              through their word;
- 21     that they may all be one;  
          even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You,  
              that they also may be in Us,  
              so that the world may believe  
              that You sent Me.

1. What is the larger context that these words fall in? Who is speaking? Who is he speaking to? What situation is he in?

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2. In v. 13, why does Jesus say he is praying these words in the hearing of the disciples? How does that shape how we understand the section as a whole?
3. In v. 14, what does Jesus say he has given the disciples? What is the result of this in the world?
4. Why are the disciples hated according to v. 14? What does this have to do with Jesus?
5. What does it mean for us to be “not of the world”? How should we expect the world to respond?
6. What is our natural response to the hatred of the world? How does Jesus correct this in v. 15? What does he pray for instead?
7. How do we seek to remove ourselves from the world? Why is this not what Jesus would want?

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❖ Day 2

Read John 17:13-21 again.

8. According to vv. 16-17, what is it that separates Jesus' disciples from the world? Is this separation good? How is it different from the ways we seek to separate ourselves contrary to v. 15?
9. How do we balance the ideas of vv. 14-17? (We are not of the world, hated by the world, but yet in the world, called to be separate from the world by the word of truth)
10. How do these twin realities shape our everyday existence? How do they shape major decisions we make (i.e. Work, schooling, friendships, clothing, music, etc.)?
11. What errors do we see in our day on either extreme – trying to remove ourselves from the world, or being of the world?
12. What is the means of sanctification Jesus calls for in v. 17? How does this answer question 9 above?
13. What is the end goal of the sanctification of v. 17 that is revealed in v. 18?

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14. Who is the supreme example of the kind of living Jesus is praying for? (v. 19)

❖ Day 3

Read John 17:13-21 again.

15. Who else is Jesus praying for? (v. 20)

16. How do others outside of the apostolic circle come to faith according to v. 20? How does this highlight the importance of what Jesus is praying for the disciples in these verses? How does it also highlight the importance of what he is praying for us?

17. What is Jesus praying for according to v. 21?

18. For what purpose does Jesus pray for unity in v. 21?

19. How does the idea and purpose of unity conveyed in v. 21 go against many of the major calls/movements for unity that we hear/see today?

20. How does everything in this passage aim for the goal of “full joy” Jesus expressed in v. 13?

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21. What are the things we pursue for our joy? What should we pursue according to this passage?

22. Summarize this passage in one sentence.

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would be marked by a holy kind of worldliness – that we would be in the world but not of the world, that we would pursue sanctification through God's Word so that we would be separate from the world, but yet in the world as a unified evangelistic people seeking to bring people to faith in the Son sent from the Father.