



***Life Group & Family
Discussion Guide***

“Jesus in Prayer”

John 17

As Easter Sunday approaches, we are looking at several events that took place just prior to Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection. This week we discuss John 17. In this chapter we have what is usually called Jesus’ “high priestly prayer.”

You can tell a lot about a person’s values by listening to his or her prayer life. Jesus’ prayer in John 17 reveals his priorities. Clearly, Jesus cared for the glory of God more than anything else in the world. Though he knew he was just hours away from being arrested, tried, condemned and killed in a most hideous fashion, Jesus prayed, “Father,...glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you” (vs. 1). What else did Jesus pray for? Let’s find out!



DISCUSS WITH YOUR LIFE GROUP:

1. **Read John 17:1-26.** What words or phrases in this prayer of Jesus create questions in your mind?

2. What is eternal life, according to Jesus Christ? (vs. 3) What does it mean to “know” God?

3. To glorify someone means to acknowledge his or her greatness, to bow before them and give them the praise and honor you believe they deserve. In verse 5, Jesus prays, “Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.” If you or I prayed for our own glory, it would be the height of self-centeredness. Why is it not sinful for Jesus to pray to be glorified?

4. According to verses 17-18, what two things does Jesus pray would happen to his people during their time on earth?

5. Who are the people Jesus is referring to in verse 20?

6. Why does Jesus pray for believers to be “brought to complete unity” (vs. 23)? What would it look like for believers in east Orlando to be completely unified? Does that condition exist at present? Explain your answer.



DISCUSS WITH YOUR FAMILY:

1. Is there unity in your home? Talk about what needs to happen in order to bring glory to God through more complete unity within your family.
2. As a family, evaluate your prayer life. Do you pray together regularly? If not, discuss what the obstacles are that keep getting in the way. What can you do to become more of a praying family?
3. Verse 18 indicates that we are to see ourselves as a “sent” people. In other words, we are all missionaries. Why is it important to look at ourselves this way? Do you think most Christians have a missionary mentality? Why or why not?

SERMON NOTES