

JOHN

LIFE IN JESUS

Jesus and His Prayer for Us

John 17:17-26

Sunday, February 18, 2024

Tim Theule

Jesus prays for our _____ with Him forever. (17:24-26)

- Jesus prays first for His church throughout _____ and then for His church throughout _____.

- The glory, unity, and love that we taste and glimpse now _____, Jesus desires we will experience _____.

- Jesus PRAYS for us just before He _____ for us.

TAKING ACTION

Jesus prays for our unity that the world may know and believe Jesus. In other words, our unity is crucial for our witness for Jesus. Since Jesus prays for our unity, we should too!

Pray for our unity at Grace Central Coast. Pray for the unity of Christians across the Central Coast and the world. Pray that our unity would help people find and follow Jesus.

NEXT WEEK: *Jesus and His Betrayal | John 18:1-12*

In John 17, Jesus is praying the longest prayer recorded in the four Gospels just before His arrest and crucifixion. The prayer is massive in scope, truth, themes, and significance. We come today to the third part of the prayer where Jesus prays for us!

Jesus prays for our _____ in Him now. (17:20-23)

- Our unity is through and around _____.

- Our unity is with the _____.

- Our unity is _____ for the reaching of the _____.

Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the perfect time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org/groups

CONNECT *(ask this question to check-in with your group)*

This week we're talking about the unity of the church. Unity is something we take for granted until it's lost. What has been your experience of unity and/or division in the church?

DISCUSS *(use some of these questions to process God's Word together)*

1. Read the whole of John 17 together as a group. (3rd week in a row!) How did you "come under" God's Word and the message this week? How did this text/message speak to you?
2. Jesus is looking way beyond the cross here as He prays. What two horizons is He looking toward and praying for, and in which verses?
3. "Evangelism is a group project, not a solo project." Explain this statement. Where is it taught in this John 17:17-26 text?

4. In John 17:26, the word "world" is used 4 times. Can you find them? In three of these four instances, Jesus is speaking "missionally", i.e. speaking of his Gospel mission. Which three? What is the fourth instance of "world" about, if it's not about his mission?
5. Why is our unity as a church critical for our fruitfulness in Jesus' mission? Do you REALLY believe that our unity as a church can help people find and follow Jesus? Can you share a story of how you've experienced this? (or the opposite?)
6. What are practical ways we can nurture and grow our unity as a church? What are real ways we can undermine, take for granted, or destroy our unity?
7. What does it mean to you that Jesus wants YOU to be where He is so that you experience His glory, unity, and love forever? Can we even grasp this?

PRAY *(use these prompts to pray in response to God's Word)*

- Let's TAKE ACTION together by praying for the unity of Grace Central Coast and the unity of Christians across the Central Coast and around the world.
- Share and pray for one another's needs.