

Readings

Scripture

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. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For 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. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And 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. ¹²While 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. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one, just 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 have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴Father, 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. ²⁵O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I 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.”

- John 17:6-26 (English Standard Version)

Sermon Outline

Jesus' Prayer for All His Disciples
John 17:6-26

Table Talk in an Upper Room
Matt Esswein

Jesus' Final Words to His Disciples Came in a Prayer for Them

Why did Jesus pray for the disciples?

- Because he knew them and their needs (John 17:6-10)
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What did Jesus pray for the disciples?

Jesus prayed for his disciples to experience:

- Unity – reflecting Jesus' unity with the Father (John 17:11)
 - Protection - from the evil one (John 17:15-16)
 - Joy (John 17:13)
 - Sanctification - through God's Word (John 17:14, 17-19)
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What did Jesus pray for believers (us)?

Jesus Prayed for all believers (us) to experience:

- Unity – reflecting Jesus' unity with the Father (John 17:20-22)
 - Fueling our witness to the world
 - Displaying God's glory
 - Love – the same love the Father had for the Son
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Reflection Questions (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- What was the first prayer you were taught? Who taught you most about prayer?
- What are Jesus' requests for the disciples? (17:6-19) How would you feel if you heard Jesus pray these things over you?
- How does God's word impact us in setting us apart for his mission? (17:6-8, 13-19)
- Who is Jesus praying for in John 17:20-26? How is this encouraging for us?
- What are Jesus' requests for the believers? (17:20-26)
- Why do you think it is so difficult for Christians to live together in unity?
- What might it look like if we truly believed that Jesus' prayer for us has been answered and provided by the Father?
- How does Jesus' prayer for us encourage and empower us in our lives today?