



## Jesus Prays for His Disciples

March 22, 2015

### OBSERVE & REFLECT

*(This section is designed to encourage us to reflect on and observe the scripture and weekend sermon.)*

#### READ John 17:6-19

- ☀ Read the text at least twice. Try reading the text from two different translations.
- ☀ What do you observe in the text? What jumps out at you and grabs your attention? What questions do you have from the text? Pay attention to any action words or phrases and observe what the implications are.

### INVESTIGATE & APPLY

*(This section focuses on what the scripture has to say as we dig deeper into the Word. It is oriented to create discussion on the scripture.)*

- ☀ Beginning at verse 6, Jesus changes the direction of His prayer to his followers. Look closely at verses 6-10. What did Jesus reveal to his disciples while here on earth? How does “glory” (v. 10) come to Jesus through His disciples?
- ☀ What does Jesus pray for his disciples in verses 11-13? How did Jesus protect his disciples and keep them safe while he was with them (v. 12)? What is the difference between joy and happiness? Where does joy come from, and what does joy help us to do? Read Romans 14:17, Romans 15:13 and 1 Thessalonians 1:6.
- ☀ While Jesus was with them He kept them together spiritually, asking for God’s care. Now He gives them to the Father to keep them. What critical resource was given to the disciples (v. 14-16)? What is the connection between Jesus giving the word to the disciples and the world hating them (v. 14)? Jesus prays for protection from whom, in verse 15?
- ☀ Jesus prays that we may be “sanctified,” which means to be set apart for God’s plans. How are the disciples to be sanctified (verses 17–19)? What does it mean to be “truly sanctified” (v. 19)?

#### For Further Study:

In the midst of this prayer, Jesus uses the word sanctify. The meaning of this word in this instance is to separate, or to set apart. The great thing about this prayer is that Jesus doesn’t just pray for the disciples to be set apart, but He attaches a specific mission to it.

Re-read John 17:17-19 and then read John 14:16-20 and John 15:7-11. These verses are directly connected to what Jesus was praying about and they help us better understand verses 17-19. As Jesus’ followers, who sanctifies or sets us apart? In His prayer, for what purpose did He set us apart? Also read Matthew 28:19-20 to get a clear picture of what Jesus was telling His disciples to do.

### NEXT STEPS

*(This section is how to ‘put the rubber to the road’ so to speak, and is created for us to grow deeper with each other as we process the implications of the text.)*

- ☀ In this prayer, we discover how Jesus spends more time praying for others than He does praying for Himself. Other than sharing prayer requests, are there ways you can be more intentional in praying for each other?
- ☀ Jesus calls us as His followers to be set apart and sent out. What are some ways you can be more intentional about being sent out into the world?