

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 05 Mar 2023..... John 12:1-19..... Why Wasn't This Sold?
- 2) 12 Mar..... John 12:20-50..... If It Dies
- 3) 19 Mar..... John 13:1-38..... I Will Come Again
- 4) 26 Mar..... John 14:1-31..... Peace I Leave
- 5) 02 Apr..... John 15:1-17..... Remain in Me
- 6) 09 Apr..... John 20:1-18..... I Have Seen
- 7) 16 Apr..... John 15:18-27; 16:1-33..... When the Spirit Comes
- 8) **23 Apr..... John 17:1-26..... I Pray**
- 9) 30 Apr..... John 18:1-27..... I Am He
- 10) 07 May..... John 18:28-40..... I Find No Fault
- 11) 14 May..... John 19:1-42..... If Is Finished
- 12) 21 May..... John 20:19-31..... Reach out Your Hand
- 13) 28 May..... John 21:1-25..... Do You Love Me?

**INTRODUCTION**

- Jesus prays for His disciples and for us, and His prayer is still being answered today

Passage	Comments
John 17:1-5	<p><b>Honoring Jesus for Completing God's Work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1. <b>Jesus prayed by lifting up His eyes.</b> In other passages Jesus prayed frequently, thankfully, while happy, while suffering; He prayed for Himself, He prayed for others; He prayed while prostrated on the ground, while hanging on the cross, while standing in front of others; He prayed quietly and alone; and He prayed by crying out loud; <b>BUT He always prayed intimately to His Father (Dad):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Mt 26:39 <b>Jesus fell on his face</b>, &amp; prayed, saying, "O my <b>Father</b>, if it be possible, let this cup pass..."</li> <li>♦ <b>Luke 10:21</b> In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit, and said, "I thank thee, O <b>Father</b>"</li> <li>♦ <b>Luke 23:34</b> Then said Jesus, "<b>Father</b>, forgive them; for they know not what they do."</li> <li>♦ <b>Luke 23:46</b> Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and said, "<b>Father</b>, into thy hands I commend my spirit..."</li> <li>♦ <b>John 11:44</b> Then <b>Jesus looked up</b> and said, "<b>Father</b>, I thank you that you have heard me..."</li> <li>♦ <b>John 17:1</b> <b>Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven</b> and said, "<b>Father</b>, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:"</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v2. Jesus received authority from God the Father over all flesh – What does this mean?                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ It doesn't mean that Jesus would finish life without getting repeatedly punched in the face, scourged beyond recognition, and hung cruelly on a cross</li> <li>♦ The end result of His authority is to grant eternal life to those whom God gives to Him – that means us!</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v3. Definition of eternal life = to know God the Father and His Son Jesus...and it would take all eternity just to scratch the surface (the Holy Spirit would also be included though He is not explicitly mentioned in this passage. The Holy Spirit always takes a subdued role)</li> </ul>
17:6-3	<p><b>Honoring Jesus Through Obedience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v8. Jesus passed on God's words to His disciples, and they finally believed (sort of) – That was Jesus' mission</li> <li>• v9. Jesus prays for His disciples, and not for the world                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ It is rare to find a passage in Scripture where it seems OK to pray for the unsaved</li> <li>♦ The majority of New Testament prayers are for the spiritual growth of believers and the boldness for believers to preach and live by the Gospel</li> <li>♦ Exception: <b>Romans 10:1</b> – Paul prayed to God for Israel "that they might be saved"</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v11. Jesus prays for His disciples to have <b>UNITY</b> and compares that unity with the unity of the Trinity                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Do we see such unity with God's people <b>TODAY</b>?</li> <li>♦ In Acts we see the Apostles having unity amongst themselves when they wrestled with church issues</li> <li>♦ If the Apostles weren't unified with supporting the poor and not putting excess burdens on Gentiles regarding circumcision, the modern church would be worse off than what it already is</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v12. Jesus addresses Judas, the son of perdition, who perished so Scripture could be fulfilled                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Was Judas a robot who had to fulfill his destiny?</li> <li>♦ <b>NO.</b> Judas had ample opportunities to accept Jesus as Lord instead of seeking ways to make money. - God's sovereignty knew what Judas would do</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
17:14-19	<p><b>Honoring Jesus Through God's Word</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v14. "I have given them Your word" – Again, Jesus makes this statement, so it must be <b>IMPORTANT</b> (v8)</li> <li>• v15. Jesus prayed not for God to take them out of the world, but to protect them from the evil one (Satan)                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Was this prayer answered, even though 11 out of 12 disciples were persecuted and died horrendously?</li> <li>♦ Since the focus of Jesus always had a heavenly perspective, we can say Satan never was able to hurt or diminish their true heavenly rewards</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv17-19. "<b>Your word is truth</b>" – Scripture speaks with the authority of God Himself. God's word is above every human thought and opinion, every speculation, every intention, and every experience                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Sola Scripture</b> – Scripture alone – Assuming we have the right interpretation Scripture is all we need to validate sound doctrine and live a sanctified life</li> <li>♦ <i>BUT do we have the right interpretation?</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
17:20-26	<p><b>Honoring Jesus Through UNITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v20. Jesus now prays for the rest of us who will come to faith as a result of the disciples going forth</li> <li>• vv21-23. The best medicine for the world is to see unity amongst the believers – <b>BUT</b> do they? <b>AND</b> do we?                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ If <b>UNITY</b> is core to winning the lost, where will Satan begin to attack the church? At the core element...</li> <li>♦ How do we combat the attack on <b>UNITY</b>? We must be willing to wrestle with our differences on the Word</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv24-26. It may look like Satan is winning battles as churches continue to divide over doctrine &amp; practices, but the Church will be triumphant in the end through Jesus continually making His name known through our witnessing opportunities</li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- This prayer by Jesus speaks volumes. Key take away point is God's word, the BIBLE, given to us by the Holy Spirit – the subdued One, saves us, keep us, sanctify us, and empower us to share the truth of God's word to others.

**NEXT WEEK: John 18.** John gives us some unique insight when we investigate those small details he provides.

