

THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE
JOHN 17:20-26//JORDAN COROS
APRIL 16, 2023



Jesus prayed that I would be one with all believers... Believing the gospel (17:20-21) ... Reflecting his glory (17:22)...Impacting the world (17:23)...Immersed in his love (17:24-26)

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1)What are some common ways that you see people in our world divided? In a world that claims to “Love All, Hate None”, why do you think we seem to be increasingly intolerant of others?

2)In this final portion of Jesus’ prayer, he points to the Gospel itself as the basis of the unifying truth that, “The perfect unity that exists between Father and Son is the basis for all Christian oneness.” (Jordan) From your experiences, what are some hinderances (personally and corporate) we need to acknowledge in order to move forward in pursuing unity? What practical steps can we take to ensure that our differences are a strength?

In v. 21 and 23, John tells us that our unity is bound up in the unity of the trinity. As you reflect on this astounding truth, consider how that might change how you live in community with other believers.

3)The second thing that Jesus prays for is that in our oneness with other believers, we would reflect his glory. Jesus prayed this knowing that we are sinners saved by grace. Thinking of unbelievers in your sphere of influence, discuss what attributes of Jesus should be reflected in the life of believers? How can we best reflect His glory in an impactful way?

4) In v.23, Jesus prays that our unity would impact the world when he says, “that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me”. Martyn Lloyd-Jones said, “The glory of the gospel is that when the church is absolutely different from the world, she invariably attracts it.” How do we approach the theological differences we have with people of other denominations? What are the criteria you might use to determine if you should tolerate a person or church’s theology? What does “living at peace with our fellow believers” look like?

5) Jordan highlighted the following ways that we can demonstrate our love for other believers:

- 1. Bear one another’s burdens (Gal6:1)**
- 2. Instruct one another (Rom15:14)**
- 3. Forgive one another (Eph4:2)**
- 4. Pray for one another (Jms5:16)**
- 5. Submit to one another (Eph5:21)**
- 6. Encourage one another (1Thess4:18)**
- 7. Stir one another up to love and good works (Heb10:24)**

As a group, assess whether these actions are evident between you. What might you do to improve on this?