

Walking In The Way Of Jesus; John 17
A study to consider the impact of Easter

8:30 Service: Jonathan & Julia Rohrer (NIV)

10:30 Service: Logan & Allison McCaughan (ESV)

John 17:1-26 ESV

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. 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. ⁷ Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸ For 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. ⁹ I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹ And 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. ¹² While 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. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ I 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. ¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And 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, ²¹ that 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. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I 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. ²⁴ Father, 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. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I 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.”

I want to highlight a simple detail that John records about Yeshua talking to our Father in heaven.

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said,
Open eyes and lifted head as it appears that He is standing around with His followers.

Standard belief is that prayer is a process of hands folded and eyes closed.

I want us to remember that one of the important requests from these men in Jesus' apprenticeship program was that He teach them to pray.

Luke 11:1-13 NASB 1995

It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples." ² And He said to them, "When you pray, say:

'Father, hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ *'Give us each day our daily bread.*

⁴ *'And forgive us our sins,*

For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.'"

⁵ *Then He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; ⁶for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; ⁷and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence (shamelessness) he will get up and give him as much as he needs.*

⁹ *"So I say to you, ask (keep asking), and it will be given to you; seek (keep seeking), and you will find; knock (keep knocking), and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened. ¹¹Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish (or loaf); he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? ¹²Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? ¹³If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father (Father from heaven) give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"*

I want to challenge you to view John 17 as a dialogue or conversation with Father God in front of all these disciples or practitioners as they are walking along or standing together in a group.

We have been talking about walking with Jesus in The Way. A lifestyle or a way of life not just a list of intellectual talking points that can be separate from our attitude and actions.

Learning to follow in The Way of Jesus because He has become our Way, our Truth, and our Life as mentioned in John 14:6. This is not an instantaneous training program but rather a lifelong pursuit of learning, growing, and changing.

Take note: There is a time to talk to God together and then a time to pour your heart out to God alone.

Jesus is opening His heart in a group setting but He is about to pour out His heart alone in Gethsemane.

Psalm 62:8 NLT *O my people, trust in Him at all times. Pour out your heart to Him, for God is our refuge.*

NOTE: Guard yourself.....if you are not on speaking terms with God then make a decision to change your status.....look up and open your mouth, usually your heart will follow.

“My way of communicating with God as a boy (and often even now) was through the lyrics of a song.....So I don’t have the problem some people do who say, “I don’t know how to pray.” I used the songs to communicate with God....To me, songs were the telephone to heaven, and I tied up the line quite a bit.”
Johnny Cash

Billy Graham said, “Prayer is spiritual communication between man and God, a two-way relationship in which man should not only talk to God but also listen to Him. Prayer to God is like a child’s conversation with his father. It is natural for a child to ask his father for the things he needs.”

Spirit Speak AI response to asking about highlights of John 17

John 17 captures Jesus' high priestly prayer before His crucifixion, focusing on His relationship with the Father, His disciples, and believers yet to come. Key themes include unity, glorifying God, protection, sanctification, and love.

Jesus prays for his disciples, asking the Father to keep them united and protected from the evil one, emphasizing that they are not of this world but sent into it (John 17:14-16, ESV). He also intercedes for future believers, desiring that they may be one as He and the Father are one, so that the world may know and believe in Him (John 17:20-21).

Jesus expresses His desire for believers to be sanctified in truth, connected to Him and experiencing His glory, love, and unity. He emphasizes the bond between believers and the triune God, desiring that they may share in the same glory He has with the Father before the world began (John 17:22-26).

Overall, John 17 showcases Jesus' deep love, care, and concern for His followers, past, present, and future, highlighting the importance of unity, protection, sanctification, and glorifying God in all things.

My big picture take of John 17 is for us to consider the Purity of our Savior. His heart, His words, His desires are so absolutely Pure. Pure love. Pure desire. Pure truth.

Let’s really study John 17 together before we celebrate the glorious resurrection next Sunday.