



Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 43

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 17:13-26

Summary:

This week's passage concludes Jesus' "High Priestly Prayer," in which Jesus continues to pray for his disciples (and for those who would believe through testimony of those disciples). The themes of unity, sanctification, and glory continue to figure prominently in this prayer. Ultimately, the High Priestly Prayer reveals not only Jesus' role as intercessor and intermediary between his people and a holy God, but also his heart for their unity, joy, and effectiveness as a body.

Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?
2. According to verse 13, what is Jesus' desire for his people as they follow him in unity (despite the difficulties of life in the world)?
3. What does Jesus mean when he says that his disciples are "not of the world," (v. 14)? How does this relate to verse 15, where Jesus is explicit about **not** praying that his disciples be taken **out of** the world (implying they ought to be **in** the world)?
4. **Application:** How can you remain **in** the world while recognizing and living out the reality that you are not **of** the world?

5. Jesus prays "Sanctify them [the disciples] in the truth; your word is truth," (v. 17). What does it mean to be sanctified? How are we sanctified "in the truth"?

6. Look at v. 18 and v. 20. What do these verses imply about the task of the disciples (our task)? How does this relate to last week's emphasis on glorifying God?

7. Verses 20-23 describe a unique kind of unity. Describe this in your own words. What does the unity of the church depend on? **Application:** What is the impact of this kind of unity on the church's effectiveness in witness? What are some ways we could pursue this unity?

8. Why does Jesus desire that his people see his glory (v. 24)? Is this vain or selfish on his part? Why or why not?

9. What's the ultimate goal for Jesus' followers (v. 26)?

10. **Application:** How do we know if (as Jesus prays in v. 26) the Father's love for the Son is also in us? How do we know if the Son himself is 'in' us? What would/does this look like in practical terms?

11. How would you 'title' this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?