

Study Guide #9 (Leader's Guide): K-group Bible Study for Week of November 12, 2017

Title of the Lesson: Jesus' High Priestly Prayer

Last week, we studied the "model prayer" that Jesus provided for us as a pattern for our prayer lives. This week, we will study an actual prayer that our Lord spoke to his heavenly father. There is much to learn about prayer from Jesus' example.

John 17:1–26 (NIV)

17 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

"Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³ Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

⁶ "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

¹³ "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

²⁴ “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

- Remind your group that one of the discipleship skills that we want to develop this year is the ability to verbalize scripture to people with whom we will have the opportunity to minister. So we will continue to ask one of you to tell the bible story from memory.
- So, let’s give our undivided attention to _____ as he/she verbalizes tonight’s bible study passage.

Questions

- Now, let’s open our bibles to John 17:1-26. Let’s review the scripture and look for details that need to be emphasized and remembered.
- After clarifying what the bible says, ask what resonated with you the most and why?”
- Context Analysis: What is taking place right before and right after this prayer? What kind of perspective does this contextual information give you in regards to today’s scripture?
- The prayer is divisible into three parts: 1) Jesus’ prayer for himself (17:1-5), 2) Jesus prayer for his disciples (17:6-19), and 3) Jesus’ prayer for all believers present and future (17:20-26).
 - What stands out to you about Jesus’ prayer for himself (see vv. 1-5)?
(Have the group brainstorm and identify each thing that Jesus prayed for)
 - What stands out to you about Jesus’ prayer for his disciples (see vv. 6-19)?
(Have the group brainstorm and identify each thing that Jesus prayed for)
 - What stands out to you about Jesus’ prayer for all believers (vv. 20-26)?
(Have the group brainstorm and identify each thing that Jesus prayed for)
- How is Jesus’ prayer similar or different from the way most Christians pray today? How is it similar or different from the way that you usually pray?
- What do we learn about God from this passage?
- What do we learn about ourselves (mankind) from this passage?
- What actions do you plan to take as a result of this study and discussion?

Close with prayer. Pray specifically that the group can follow through with what God has put on their hearts to do.