



Lesson 21 John 17: 6-19

Welcome to Table 2! This is part two in our three part series on John 17. I love the direction the Holy Spirit gave Mary Beth for this lesson. I was challenged and encouraged by our discussion around Jesus' prayer for His beloved disciples.

Beloved, how often do you hear a message on this important chapter?

These John 17 podcast episodes are the ones you don't want to skip.
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John 17:6-19

The focus of Jesus's priestly prayer now turns to his disciples. He refers to them as 'those whom you (The Father) gave me' which we discussed in the last lesson. The gift from His Father are now his friends and disciples. Three years prior, these young men responded to Jesus' invitation to follow him with curiosity and perhaps an unexplainable lure. Now, they are about to face an event like no other- his death on the cross, resurrection and then ascension. Their lives will never be the same.

Jesus knew their understanding of the events about to unfold would be limited for a time and he will not be physically by their side in the grief and struggle. With love and truth, Jesus prays for them.

Jesus declared the Father had given him authority and people (17:1-5). The disciples are some of those people. As you read this section of his prayer, think about his heart to faithfully care for those God had given to him.

God has given you people to love and pray for as well. Ask God to use His prayer to inspire your prayer and care for the people God has put in your life.

Read [John 17:6-8](#)

Notice the progression in a faith journey in v 6-8. What key actions are described:

Obedying God's Word (v. 6) and accepting the words (v. 8) involve two different Greek words. Some will receive God's words, yet not respond in obedience. Jesus affirms the disciples both accepted the words of Christ and obeyed him.

The progression of faith begins with revelation!

Describe how God is revealed from these passages:

[John 1:14](#)

[Romans 1:20](#)

[Romans 10:17](#)

How would you describe the progression of your knowledge to faith in the Lord?

How has God been revealed to you? (people, circumstances, creation, scripture, etc)

How do you position yourself to receive God's Word?

How would you describe what helps or hinders your obedience to God and His Word?

What does Jesus say about those who both hear and obey God's Word in Luke 11:28?

Read [John 17:9-12](#).

Why does Jesus pray for the disciples according to these verses?

How might a person glorify God, as Jesus prayed for in 17:10?

See also [Psalm 63:3](#), [Matthew 5:16](#), [John 15:8](#), [Colossians 1:10](#), [1 Corinthians 10:31](#), [2 Corinthians 9:13](#), [Philippians 4:11-13](#), [1 Peter 2:12](#).

Read again John 17:11-12. The one 'lost', Judas, was not one who obeyed Jesus' Word. He pretended. Judas did not lose his salvation, because he had not received it. All are doomed to destruction apart from receiving Jesus as Savior.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned— Romans 5:12

Read Romans 5:6-11

What does this passage teach you about all persons?

What does this passage teach you about God?

Eternal security: Protecting our Salvation

It is important to know what the Bible teaches about how to be saved (Ephesians 2:8-9) and the security of salvation.

Jesus prays for protection of salvation by the power of God's name (17:11). This means protection by God- therefore His attributes. So, Jesus is entrusting the security of our salvation to God's unmatched power, steadfastness, faithfulness, wisdom, love, and mercy- not our ability to never sin again.

What truths encourage you regarding the security of salvation:

John 10:27-30

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Ephesians 1:14

Ephesians 2:8-9

Philippians 1:6

Read John 17:13-19. Jesus prayed for joy, protection from evil and sanctification.

Imagine being in the upper room with Jesus as he prayed these words. What would have stood out to you as you listened to Jesus?

Joy

Joy is always where Jesus is. The angels said upon Jesus birth: "*Bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people*". Luke 2:10

Jesus wants us to have the full measure of HIS joy regardless of what we face in life on earth. This happens by His presence in us.

Jesus knows grief is around the corner for his disciples as his death draws near. He knows the world will hate them and how hard that is to experience that opposition day to day.

Joy is not from the world- it is a gift from Jesus through God's Spirit- Galatians 5:22.

In John 15:9-11, Jesus affirms as we remain in His love, His joy will be in us.

Jesus prays for his disciples to live in joy so the world encounters His joy in His people.

Protection from Evil

Jesus does not ask God the Father to take those he loves out of this evil world. (17:15) He prays they will have the protection they need from the evil that is always lurking around the earth. 1 Peter 5:8

What truth about protection is declared in Psalm 23:4?

What truths about God is found in Psalm 34:14-16?

Read Matthew 14:22-33 and Mark 4:35-41.

In Matthew 14 and Mark 4, the disciples were right where Jesus told them to be, but a storm came anyway. We need protection even when we are obedient to the will of God.

So, Jesus prayed for it. Jesus also taught his disciples to pray for it. Matthew 6:13

Sanctification

Jesus asks the Father to sanctify the disciples by the truth- the Word of God. Sanctification is a lifelong process of growing into the likeness of Jesus, growing in God's character.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

God's Word is a form of protection as well as an offensive weapon when we chose to obey His Word. Read [Ephesians 6:10-17](#)

How do you put on God's Armor? What might help you remember to apply this armor?

We learn how to recognize evil by knowing, trusting and obeying God's Word.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2

Timothy 3:16-17

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

As you consider this section of Jesus' prayer, consider how you will pray for each of the matters on Jesus' heart for yourself or those God has given you to love on His behalf.

1. Faith begins with revelation.
2. Security of Salvation
3. Joy from Christ through the gift of our Salvation
4. Protection from Evil
5. Transformation and protection by Truth of God's Word