

**Life in His Name – Part 43**  
**Jesus Prays for All Who Believe - John 17:20-26**  
Crosspoint – Dave Spooner – Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Intro:**

- This morning, we have the privilege of focusing on what Jesus prayed for all who believe, including all who believe in this room and all who have come before us and will come after us. Through this prayer, we understand more of the heart of Jesus and what He wants for us, and it is pretty exciting, glorious even.
- I am going to read this passage in its entirety, and then we are going to circle back and focus on three things Jesus wants for us.

**John 17:20-26 NIV**

**“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.”**

**Jesus wants us to be unified with each other in Him**

**John 17:20-23 NIV**

**“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.**

- This prayer is for all who would believe in Jesus through the message of the apostles. It is amazing to think that at this moment just before being betrayed, Jesus would be thinking about and praying for us (all who believe v.20).
- His prayer is that we would be “one,” that we would carry each other in our hearts, that we would be unified like the Father and the Son, and that we would be connected to each other because we are connected to Christ (think vine and the branches, John 15).
- The greatest tragedy would be to lose our connection to Christ and, therefore, lose our life-giving connection with each other. But if we are in Christ, we are connected to each other, regardless of location or when we lived on this earth.

- In order to help us do this, Jesus gave us “the glory that you (the Father) gave me” (v.22). This is the goodness of God, which is the glory of God. We know God and His goodness most fully and clearly through the Son and through the work of the Holy Spirit and His fruit in our lives (Gal. 5:22-23) which keep us connected to Him and each other.
- This connection and unity are for our benefit, but not for our benefit alone. They are also so that the world will believe that Jesus is the Son of God and is sent by the Father (v. 21, 23) and that He loves us.

### **Jesus wants us to experience His goodness for all eternity**

#### **John 17:24 NIV**

**“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.**

- What an amazing request! Jesus wants us to be with Him and to experience the full extent of His goodness for all eternity where there will be no more sorrow, or suffering, or death, where everything will be remade new. There will be places to explore, things to do, and perfected relationships with God and each other in redeemed bodies and a glorious inheritance (Rev. 7:15-17, 21:1-6, Eph. 1:11-18, Col. 1:12, Col. 3:24, I Peter 1:3-6).
- This is our great promise and our sure hope, and in it, we are to greatly rejoice. This is the result for all those who believe we will be with Christ and enjoy His goodness and glory forever.

### **Jesus wants us to know the Father and His love**

#### **John 17:25-26 NIV**

**“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.”**

- The world does not and cannot understand the righteousness of the Father because they don’t believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. They can know things about God through common grace, but they will not know the righteousness and redemption of God.
- Jesus came to make the Father known to us so that we would experience His goodness and give Him glory. Jesus has made the Father known to us and *will continue to make Him known* (v. 6) through His word, through the Holy Spirit, through creation, and through interaction and illumination.
- In this, we will continue to know the love of the Father for the Son. The prayer is that we would love the Son as the Father does and become more like the Son through our love for Him because Jesus will be in us, and we will be remade to be like Him through His work and our surrender.

### **Conclusion**

- Let the words of Jesus’s prayer be firmly established in your heart and mind. Jesus wants us to be unified with each other through Him. Jesus desires that we will be with Him for all eternity and enjoy His goodness forever. Jesus has and will continue to show you the goodness of the Father so we can know His love and be more and more in love with and like Christ. Let these truths wash over your soul and give you strength, hope, and encouragement.