



WEEK 6 HANDOUT – **The Son Prays for His Own**
SPRING/2021

BAND of BROTHERS

Key Verse: "...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." – John 15:5 ESV

- **A pep-talk and a prayer**

- That's a basic summary of chapters 15-17
- It all takes place in the upper room
 - They have shared the Passover meal
 - Jesus has instituted the last supper
 - He has washed their feet
 - He has exposed Judas as His betrayer
 - And now Jesus is giving what is essentially a divine pep-talk

"Abide in me..." – 15:4

"...ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you..." – 15:7

"...love one another." – 15:12

"I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit." – 15:16

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"But when the Helper comes...he will bear witness about me." – 15:26

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth." – 16:13

"You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy." – 16:20

- But Jesus didn't sugarcoat it

"If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers." – 15:16

"...because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you" – 15:19

"...they will also persecute you." – 15:20

"They will put you out of the synagogues." – 16:2

"...you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice." – 16:20

"Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone." – 16:32

- **This is Jesus' farewell address**

- Similar to another farewell address

- Given by Joshua to the people of Israel

"Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." – Joshua 24:14-15 ESV

- Jesus paints a fairly grim picture

- He expected them to "bear much fruit"
- He commanded them to love as He had loved them
- He warned them to abide or face failure
- He told them they would suffer persecution
- He let them know they would be hated by the world
- And He said they would all end up abandoning Him

*"I have said all **these things** to you to keep you from falling away." – John 16:1 ESV*

- Jesus knew what was ahead for them
 - They would be tempted to give up
 - Their fears were going to get the best of them
 - So, He gave them fair warning
 - He tried to prepare them for the inevitable

*"But I have said **these things** to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. I did not say **these things** to you from the beginning, because I was with you." – John 16:4-5 ESV*

- "But if I go..."

- Jesus' departure would be to their advantage
 - He would turn a perceived negative into a positive

- Their **fear** would be turned to **faith**
 - Their **timidity** would be turned to **boldness**
 - Their **weakness** would be turned to **strength**
 - Their **sorrow** would be turned to **joy**
 - Their **loss** would be turned to **great gain**
 - Their **small number** would be become a **mighty host**
- These things
*“I have said **these things** to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” – John 1:33 ESV*

- This is the third time Jesus has used this phrase **tauta** – these things, these words
- But now Jesus is going to say it a fourth time
 - But this time, in the form of a prayer
 - He’s going to talk to His Father, but in their hearing
 - Chapter 17 contains His High Priestly Prayer
 - This does not take place in the garden, but in the upper room

*When Jesus had spoken **these words** [tauta], he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you...” – John 17:1 ESV*

- This prayer was intended for the disciples
 - He begins by focusing their attention on the essence of eternal life
“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” – John 17:3 ESV
 - This prayer was intended for the disciples
 - Everything He prays is for their benefit
 - The content of His prayer reiterates His pep-talk
 - But now He involves the Heavenly Father

- **The high priestly prayer – John 17**

- Jesus’ prayer is directed to His father, but intended for the disciples
 - He prays it in their hearing and for their benefit
 - It reiterates all that He has spoken to them in the upper room

“Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you...” – John 17:1 ESV

“Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once.” – John 13:31-32 ESV

- Jesus' glorification was in the hands of God
- The disciples had no need to fear or doubt

"I glorified you on earth...now, Father, glorify me in your own presence..." – John 17:4
ESV

"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." – John 14:13 ESV

- The Father would continue to be glorified through Jesus
- But through the "greater works" of the disciples

"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..." – John 17:6 ESV

"If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you." – John 15:19 ESV

- They had been given to Jesus by the Father
- And Jesus had revealed God to them
- Now, they too would be one with God

"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." John 17:8 ESV

"...all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you." – John 15:15 ESV

"...you have loved me and have believed that I came from God." – John 16:27 ESV

- The message Jesus gave them had come from God
- And He had delivered it faithfully and accurately
- And their belief in it would be well rewarded

"And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you." – John 17:11 ESV

"I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father." – John 16:28 ESV

"Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." – John 13:38 ESV

- Jesus was returning to His Father's side
- Further proof to the disciples that He was the Son of God

"I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled." – John 17:12 ESV

"...you are clean, but not every one of you." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean." – John 13:11 ESV

"I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled..." – John 13:18 ESV

- The Father had made Jesus responsible for the disciples
- And He had completely fulfilled His job
- The disciples were eternally safe and secure

"But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves." – John 17:13 ESV

"You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I." – John 14:28 ESV

"I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn over what is going to happen to me, but the world will rejoice. You will grieve, but your grief will suddenly turn to wonderful joy." – John 16:20 ESV

- Jesus is speaking "these things" so they can hear them
- His prayer to the Father was meant to encourage them

"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." – John 17:14 ESV

"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you." – John 15:18-19 ESV

- They would soon be aliens, strangers, and wanted men
- Their citizenship was about to change

"As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth." – John 17:18-19 ESV

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth..." – John 16:13 ESV

"But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me." – John 15:26 ESV

- Jesus would set Himself apart to serve as their sin substitute
- So, they could be set apart in the truth of their calling

"The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one..." – John 17:22-23

“In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” – John 14:20-21 ESV

“If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” – John 14:23 ESV

- They will receive the glory of God
- The manifestation of His power and presence, in the form the Spirit of God
- And that is what will allow them to love one another (John 13:35; 1 John 3:13-14)

“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.” – John 17:24 ESV

“In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.” – John 14:2-3 ESV

- Jesus came to offer sinner’s the gift of **salvation**
- And to believers, the gift of the Spirit for **sanctification**
- But His ultimate goal is our future **glorification**
- See 1 John 3:4; Colossians 3:2-3

- **The greatest of these is love**

“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.” – John 16:26 ESV

- Jesus ends His prayer with an emphasis on love
- His entire ministry had been a mission of love
- And divine love would **power** and **prove** their ministry

Christ’s love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them. – 2 Corinthians 2:14-15 NLT

- **FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

- Do you think our love has convinced the world that we are Jesus’ disciples? In not, why?
- In what areas of your Christian life could you use a spiritual pep-talk or prayer?
- Jesus’ prayer was meant as a reminder of God’s role in our entire salvation story – from salvation to glorification. Why is this important?