

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

John 17:20-26

For Starting

- What does 'love' look like? Would your description make sense to someone who did not understand 'love'?
- What 2 or 3 items are regularly in your prayers more than anything else?
- What do our prayers say about what we value most?
- What is your definition of "prayer"?

For Reviewing

- Who does Jesus pray for (v.20)?
- What is the example or standard for the unity that Jesus prays for (v.21)?
- Whose glory does Jesus seek (v.22)? Why?
- What will be the effect of this unity (v.23)?
- Where does Jesus want/desire all believers to be (v.24a)?
- Where was Jesus "*before the creation of the world*" (v.24b)?
- What title does Jesus use for His Father (v.25)? Where else is this title used? (See Ps 116:5, Ps 119:137, Deut 32:3-4).

For Discussion

- What do these verses say about the Father's love for His Son?
- What issues prevent us most from experiencing the kind of unity that Jesus sought for us?
- How is it possible to have *genuine* unity with other people when you don't agree about everything?
- Read Philippians 2:1-11. What is the key to "being one"?
- The phrase "I in them" (v.26) echoes God's Old Testament covenant (Ex 29:45-46). In what ways do our prayers change when we know for certain that Jesus is near and listening?
- Quote: "*If Jesus is in us, then everything that is in Jesus is in us*". Do you agree/disagree? How does this affect our lives today?
- How much do our prayers match what Jesus prayed?
- You could end by reading together John 17:26.

John 17:20-26 (NIVUK)

Jesus Prays for All Believers

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. May they may be brought to complete unity to let the world 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.”