

Believe

JOHN

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Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: John 17:6-19

Read John 17:6-19

Sermon Summary:

The prayer in John 17 reveals the heart of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. He has ministered and cared for his disciples by protecting and guarding them and now he asks the Father to continue that protection as he is about to leave the earth. His prayer includes not only how he has protected them while on the earth but also their positive response to the Son's giving the Father's name and word to them. Jesus also asks the Father to set them apart (sanctify them) by the truth as he sends them into the world. He also asks that the Father guard them from the evil one as they are about to be sent into the world.

Discussion:

1. What are the things that Jesus did in his ministry to the disciples?
2. According to this prayer what was the response of the disciples?
3. The way Jesus describes their response seems different than in previous times. Discuss why Jesus describes their response in such a positive way.
4. How do you think the Jesus is glorified in the disciples? (v. 10)
5. Read 17:11. What does "keeping them in the Father's name" have to do with being one? How can this oneness be realized?
6. Read 17:14. How does "giving them your word" relate to the world hating them?
7. Read 17:17-19. Describe your understanding of sanctify based on the context.
8. Consider Jesus' description of the disciples' response to his ministry to them. Do you see yourself in the same way? Why or why not?

End with Prayer