



# The Gospel According to John – Our High Priest.

ADAMLONG | Week of Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## SERMON TEXT // John 17:1-5 English Standard Version

*<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.*

**SERMON SUMMARY** // This prayer has been called the **Holy of Holies of the Gospel According to John**. Which is fitting because most of our Bibles have titled this particular chapter as *The High Priestly Prayer of Jesus*. The High Priest, was the only person permitted to enter the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement. The Holy of Holies was exactly that: *holy*, or, set apart. No one else was allowed in nor were they even allowed to eavesdrop from beyond the curtain.

This makes **John 17** all the more magnificent. This great prayer marks the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, but it also points forward to the very reason for which He came: which is the work that is still to be done on the cross. While this is not the first time Jesus has prayed throughout the Gospel's – He was certainly in constant communion and communication with the Father – this chapter is our invitation to step beyond the curtain of the Holy of Holies, as it were, and listen in on how Jesus prayed to the Father concerning the events that lay before Him in the hours to come.

**SERMON GUIDE** // The cross displays the glory of the Father and glorifies the Son harmoniously. It does so by displaying the pictures of **eternal life**, (vv.2-3)  
**unwavering obedience**, (v.4) and  
**complete restoration**. (v.5)

**SERMON APPLICATION** // Since Jesus's number one priority was to bring glory to the Father, what does that mean for His followers? It means nothing less than that the glory of God must be the top priority in our lives. Everything we do should find its purpose the celebration of God. Every single detail of our lives is intended to reveal and celebrate the majesty, splendor, and goodness of our God. Jesus' priority was to glorify the Father – the cross was the means by which He accomplished that. The cross should be the means each of us glorify the Father as well – with our dependance upon it and submission to it.

REFLECT. || POINT. || MAKE.



## The Gospel According to John – John 17:1-5

COMMUNITYGROUPS | Week of Sunday January 24th, 2021

**Question 1** // Read **John 17:1-5**. What is something from the text that resonated with you, a truth that encouraged you, or even a question you may have surrounding the text theme?

**Question 2** // This text is all about a powerful prayer. The reality of Jesus' situation drove Him to humbly pray to the Father. This is a unique prayer, but we know that Christ got away to pray many times throughout the Gospels. **How vital is prayer knowing that Jesus, God in the flesh, took time to pray?** *Discuss prayer and the example Jesus is setting for us in this aspect of our spiritual life.*

**Question 3** // Adam broke down the differences between the "glory of God" and what it means for God to be "glorified". They are similar but distinct. These are two words and themes that are used frequently throughout the Bible. **Discuss these differences. Why is it important for us to know the differences.**

**Question 4** // Jesus is the our ultimate High Priest. **Discuss what the High Priest represented and how the "veil was torn". How does this change us? How does this change our world? How is this contrary to so many other beliefs.** *Spend some times reading about the Jesus as our High Priest in the letter to the Hebrews for context.*

### Reflection & Prayer

Spend time in praying asking for an opportunity to fall in love with prayer. Yes, our love for prayer is something we should be praying about. Which is great because it, in itself, is cyclical. Praying for our love for prayer should only increase our desire to pray. Spend sometime really focusing on the truth that **before Jesus was lead to the cross He was led to pray**. How can the things leading to difficulty, pain, confusion, and isolation on our lives lead us to pray.

REFLECT. || POINT. || MAKE.