

LifeGroup Discussion Questions

Based on: John 17:1-5

January 12, 2020

Overview:

This is a somewhat difficult passage to understand. I read several commentaries and they simply referred to verses 1-5 as the introduction to the prayer. Jesus mentions to be glorified both for Himself and for God. "What does Jesus mean when he asks to be "glorified"? The Greek word used here (*doxazo*) means to venerate, bring homage or praise"¹ Jesus is facing the cross. He views it as a place of glory.

What makes this difficult to understand is that it is completely the opposite from the way we think. We don't typically view the worst possible situations in our lives as a way to bring glory to God. Think of the loss of a loved one. Maybe a relationship that has been broken. Is there a way to take the worse thing life throws at you and handle it in such a way that brings glory to God? The way for Jesus to glorify the Father was to finish the work. The work He had yet to finish was the cross.

It is through the cross that all who believe will have eternal life. Verses 2-3 refer to the giving of eternal life. Jesus had glory from the beginning of time. He was glorified when He was in the presence of the Father. He had glory when the world was being created. He had glory when life was breathed into man. The only thing Jesus gains by going to the cross is you.

Out of all of creation and all of eternity, you are the only gain Jesus has by going to the cross. The cross brings both glory to Jesus and God. It brings eternal life to all who have faith.

Bible Study John 17:1-5

1. How can you view the cross as a place of glory?
2. Jesus is praying knowing the cross is coming soon. What do your prayers consist of when you face difficult situations?
3. In what ways can you glorify God in the midst of life's troubles?

¹ Burge, G. M. (2000). [*John*](#) (p. 462). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.