



**The Upper Room: Jesus Prays
John 17:1-26**

Jesus' time had come to reveal the full extent of who He was as Messiah and to show the full extent of His love. Note the number of times it was not Jesus' time (2:4; 7:6; 7:8; 7:30; 8:20). Now it was and Jesus lifted His to eyes and prayed.

Jesus Prays for Himself (vv. 1-5)

- **Glory** – Jesus' petition for Himself was that He would be glorified and therefore glory the Father. To glorify means the revelation and manifestation of all that God has and is. Such a revelation usually results in praise. Jesus was asking the Father to sustain Him in suffering, accept His sacrifice, resurrect Him and restore Him to His pristine glory.

Also Note: Jesus is the life giver who gives eternal life. Eternal life is an intimate relationship with God. Therefore, it is a gift which we now possess.

We too are to glorify God (Rom 11:36; 16:27; 1 Cor, 10:31; Eph 1:6, 12, 14).

Jesus Prays for the Disciples (vv.6-19)

The disciples and all believers are the Father's gift to the Son (see verse 2, 6, 9, 11-12, 24). Jesus had revealed the Father to the disciples (see John 1:18) who had heard (v.8), accepted (v.8) and obeyed the Word (v.6). Jesus prayed for:

- **Protection** – Jesus had protected the disciples while He was with them. Jesus asked they be protected from the world that would hate them and from the evil one by the power of the Name of the Father.
- **Unity** – A unity which is like the unity of Father and Son. Therefore, it is an internal unity of being, not an external uniformity.
- **Sanctification** – The word sanctification means "to set apart," "to dedicate" especially for service to God. Jesus prayed the Father would set apart the disciples for service by the truth of the Word of God. We too must be separate from the world and made holy by the Word.

Jesus Prays for all Believers (vv. 20-26)

Jesus prayed specifically for us too - believers who have heard the testimony of the disciples and have believed in Jesus. Jesus prayed for:

- **Unity** – Again it is a unity like the Father and Son are united. In reality all Christians are one. We are one body of Christ, saved by one Lord (see 1 Cor 12, Eph. 2:11-22). Paul commands us to keep the unity (Eph 4:4-6). Christian unity shows the world the Father sent Jesus and loves us.
- **Be with Jesus** – Jesus asked the Father to have believers be with Him to see His glory.
- **The Father's love and Jesus' presence be in us** - Later John answers the question how do we know we abide in Christ. We bear God's love (1 John 4:7, 16) and Christ's own Spirit (1 John 4:13).