

A. Sermon Slides

Slide 1:

Eternal Church Coordinates: Truth
John 17:6-19

Slide 2:

John 17:6-20 (ESV)

“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.

Slide 3:

All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

Slide 4:

I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word.

Slide 5:

The world desperately needs God's true church today!

Slide 6:

A Holy Spirit-filled church will exhibit life in 4 areas:

- 1) Commitment/Submission to the Truth (South/Downward)
- 2) Transcendent Spiritual Worship (North/Upward)
- 3) Dynamic Covenant Community (East/Inward)
- 4) Vigorous and Appropriate Witness (West/Outward)

Slide 7:

vs 6: "They have kept your word"

vs 8: "I have given them the words you gave me, and they have received them"

vs 14: "I have given them your word"

vs 17: "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth"

vs 20: "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word"

Slide 8:

Why is Truth so essential?

1) Because the Truth is what creates and circumscribes a Christian

Slide 9:

John 18:37-38 (ESV)

Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

Slide 10:

Why is Truth so essential?

1) Because the Truth is what creates and circumscribes a Christian

2) Because the Truth sanctifies God's people

Slide 11:

1 Corinthians 6:18 (ESV)

Flee from sexual immorality.

Slide 12:

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV)

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.

B. Group Discussion

1) Read John 17:6-20. Talk about all of the things that Jesus has on His heart and wants to express to His Father.

2) Is it true that all humans are under authority to Truth? Even if someone says that there is no objective truth, isn't that just a truth claim under which someone moves and breathes?

Talk about the fallacy of living a life without acceptance to truth claims.

3) What is your relationship to biblical Truth? How much or little have you oriented your entire life, and come under the authority of Truth?

4) Talk about how Truth is used to change us once we have accepted it. How does that work for you? Give examples of each below:

1) Passive Approach. (Pray, live, sleep, eat and wait. Just love.)

2) Aggressive/shaming the Will Approach. (Stop it! Do it! Practice it! Fear of God/eternity)

3) Application of Truth Approach. (I am not behaving correctly, so what truth have I decided to not submit to, or receive, or replace with my own? How can the Holy Spirit help me assimilate a Truth I don't like?)

5) Jesus knew who He was, was confident in His relationship with His Father, knew why he came and what he would have to do,

And yet He was dismayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. So much so, that He was grieved to the point of death. What is happening there, and how did He overcome that moment to continue into the completion of the Father's plan of salvation?

(Passive/Aggressive/Apply Truth?)

6) Prayer and praise