

Pastor Jim Jackson, 7/5/26
Days With Jesus, Day 50—The Son Phones Home
John 17:1-16

The Son lived to GLORIFY the Father

At the end of dinner, Jesus closes by praying to his Father in what is often called the ‘High Priestly prayer.’ The Father sent Jesus to save the world by giving himself as the greatest sacrifice on the cross (John 3:13-18). After this, no further sacrifices were needed to forgive sin, and he became the final high priest as the ultimate mediator between God and man. *Believers have direct access to God through Christ as their High Priest* (1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 10:11-14)! In Jewish culture, a good son reflected his father and glorified him by living out his values as an extension of him (Prov. 10:1; 15:20; 23:24). During his ministry, Jesus honored, obeyed, and respected his Father’s will. As a perfect, obedient son, Jesus exemplified God and brought Him maximum glory (Matt. 3:17; John 14:9). *The perfect Son perfectly presents the perfect Father perfectly!*

The Son desires to return home to his GLORY

Like a son who’s been away at war or on a long business trip, Jesus desires to return to home. In his pre-incarnation state, Jesus was God eternally existing as a Spirit. When he took on flesh at conception in Mary, his divine glory was muted so now he prays to have that glory restored. *Jesus wasn’t given glory as a reward but as a restoration to what was previously laid aside* (Phil. 2:6-11)! This is also a claim to divinity, as God said He will never share His glory with anything or anyone—man, angel, animal, or idol (Is. 42:8; 48:11; Rev. 19:10). *To have God’s glory is to be God!*

Christians live to GLORIFY the Son

Jesus glorified the Father by being obedient though he was equal to Him in divinity. The disciples, who aren’t equal to the Son, are to learn from him what it means to live for God and strive for unity and oneness. *If the Son can unify, so can the students; if the Savior can serve, so can the saved!* Jesus promises God will protect the disciples and they can live free of worry or anxiety (Luke 4:29; John 5:18; Matt. 7:25-34; 1 Pet. 5:7). Christians living in obedience to God have a ‘no fear, no fail’ policy and can’t die until God lets them. The death of the righteous is precious to God as they have finished the race and completed their mission (Ps. 116:15; 2 Tim. 4:6-8). *God superintends a believers life both here and eternally!*