

JESUS PRAYS FOR US  
Fellowship Bible Church Dallas | May 21st, 2023 | Adam Watson  
*John 17:1-26, John 1:18, Hebrews 4:14-16*

SERMON VIDEO BUMPER (Prayer over the Watsons from Caleb Panter)

- 1) Short word to thank Adam for his help in this time of our church.
- 2) Mention where he and Laura are headed - London, England, and why - Church planting and leader development.
- 3) They are now focused on raising support & planning to leave for England in July as the Lord provides remaining funds needed.
- 4) Pray a sending off prayer over him and his wife. Laura and Caleb will then leave stage as Adam will start his sermon.

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Thank you! Adam personal thank you to Fellowship for the opportunity to come back and be a small part of this pivotal season in the life of Fellowship. For God's providence this Spring to preach the word of God with you.

Intro Transition: Last week Dr. Tim Robinson gave a lovely mothers day sermon on John 13 and the overwhelming, never ending, overflowing over into our lives. Nothing can stop the love of Jesus! He also played a video of waterfall the entire sermon behind him. The love of Jesus is like a stunning, overflowing, never ceasing waterfall & he wants to pour it out on you today! Amen! We continue in our series on John we get to continue a theme of parenting. I want to invite into some of our family business, our families most recent gender reveal.

Set-Up illustration: [SLIDE 1](#) Video (Gender Reveal and Picture)

[SLIDE 2](#) Our desire for this baby boy. Our prayers for Him. Anticipation of good!

- My kids know my heart for them
- John gives us this glimpse of Jesus heart for us!

Today we have John 16-18 but today we are going to lock in on Chapter 17. Chapter 17 may be one of the most beautiful and sacred passages in all of scripture. Why do you ask? WE have the words of our King Jesus prayer for us. Yes, we have the words of Jesus before us. The words He prays over you and I the night before He gives His life for us.

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[SLIDE 3](#) Read John 17:13-22

13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 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. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16 **They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.** 17 **Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.** 18 **As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.** 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. 20 **"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,** 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,

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Main Point:

[SLIDE 4](#) **Jesus prays for us! He is praying for you.**

- The beauty of our Saviors prayers.
- If you do not know Jesus, if you don't call yourself a christian, Maybe you are carrying a burden of church hurt.

[SLIDE 5](#) **What is He praying for?**

- Don't you want to know what Jesus wants most for you? Have you ever considered this?

[SLIDE 6](#) **We see Jesus desires for us. Do you know what Jesus is praying for you?**

- **Sanctified: Truth:** Sanctify them by your truth, your word
- **Unified: Unity:** Give them the same unity that we share father
- **Commissioned: Mission:** Jesus as just was sent by the Father we are sent into the world

Why is Jesus praying for us? What is Jesus praying for? A prayer of legacy. We see Jesus' desire clearly for those He leaves behind.

## SLIDE 7

### 1. **TRUTH: Sanctify them in truth**

- **V. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.**
- **V.8 we see that these are words given to Jesus.**
- JOHN 1:14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."
- The word of God John 1:1
- The power of the word Jeremiah 31 New Covenant. Our hearts of stone turn to hearts of flesh.
- Sanctification through the word. Purified over time to look more like Jesus!

## SLIDE 8 What is Jesus praying for Fellowship? *Be sanctified by the truth!*

- I want to honor the name for a second here. I mean the name, Fellowship Bible Church. Bible is in the name. This is a church founded on the word of God.
  - At the same time I want challenge you and us as a bible church with two words of exhortation.
    - **Do not master the bible, let the bible master you. X2**
    - **Do not be content with spiritual information but pursue spiritual transformation through the Holy Spirit.**
1. Glory: the word John uses here in the Greek is Doxa. Which comes from a verb that literally means to appear, to seem, to think, to accept. SLIDE 9 "*The visible manifestation of the invisible God*"
  2. Jesus example of Prayer: Types of Prayer. Intercessory Prayer. Theo of Prayer. Holy Spirit Led The Role of Intercessor, timeliness and **standing the gap**.
  3. Trinity: SLIDE 10 John 17:5 **And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.**
    - SLIDE 11 "The one true God eternally exists as three persons, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one in nature, equal in glory, and distinct in relations."<sup>1</sup> - Dr. Scott Horrell

"From eternity past, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit unite in communication, fellowship, and love, thus in a plenitude of interpersonal relationships.<sup>2</sup> In the secular world, many declare that human relationships exist only to serve our selfish interests, that "love" is simply the product of biological hormones, and that language is a tool of manipulation."

**TRANSITION** story of

## SLIDE 12

### 2. **UNITY: Jesus prays for our unity**

SLIDE 13 John 17:20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, **21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.**"<sup>3</sup>

We are included here John 17:20! "...but also for those who will believe in me through their word."

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<sup>1</sup> Horrell, J. Scott, IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT: TOWARD A TRANSCULTURAL TRINITARIAN WORLDVIEW.

<sup>2</sup> For biblical evidence of intra-Trinitarian relations see Horrell, "The Eternal Son of God in the Social Trinity," in Sanders and Issler, eds., *Jesus in Trinitarian Perspective*, 44-79.

<sup>3</sup> *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 17:20–21.

**Jesus prays for us! He is praying for us now.** He is praying for Unity. That doesn't mean we should all be in the same church. Does it? Verse 21 *“that they may be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”*

- Unity as a church
- Unity as believers
- Unity as family

1. How do we pursue this Unity?

- Love and godliness - the power of the H.S.! Jesus just promised the disciples right moments earlier in John 16. That He would send the helper, the H.S.
- Accountability - we must be in community.

2. [SLIDE 14](#) **What is Jesus praying for Fellowship? Unity!**

- Gene Getz, Bill Counts, Gary Brandenburg, Kurt Pressler and many others. Honor. Hebrews 13:7. Seasons of the church, seasons of ministry. We must fight for unity!
- Jesus is leaving His disciples A Warning for us all this week. This is Jesus prayer for His disciples, and for us. Those who have believed from their words of the gospel.

*If you ask a funeral director about one of the saddest scenes they witness. It is the disunity of adult children who have lost a parent. Imagine how that parent would feel if they could see their children bickering after their death. The unity of children is one of the most consistent prayers of a godly parent.*

- Imagine how Jesus feels when He sees His disciples, His followers, not only not representing Him, BUT disunified, hurting each other in His absence.

3. [SLIDE 15](#) **I believe there are 3 things our unity does or accomplishes.**

1. **Our unity** is evidence of our being sanctified in the truth
2. **Our unity** is a witness to a broken and hurting world of the restorative beauty of our God.
  - **“that they may be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”**
  - **SO THAT...the world may believe that you you have seen me. Our unity is a partnership with witness of Christ Jesus to the world.**
  - We are a representation of His glory!
3. **Our unity** is to be enjoyed!

***9 I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. JESUS IS PRAYING FOR YOU NOW. INTERCEEDING ON YOUR BEHALF.***

[SLIDE 16](#) **Jesus our Great High Priest**

- The role of the High Priest was to go before God on behalf of the people once a year. Giving a sacrifice. One man going before God on behalf of others. He prays for us

[SLIDE 17](#) Hebrews 4:14-16 *“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”*<sup>4</sup>

- Jesus would give His life for us the next day.
- Our High Priest became our sacrifice. Taking on all of our sin, shame, and guilt.

<sup>4</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Heb 4:14–16.

## SLIDE 18

### **3. MISSION: Jesus prays for us to be sent**

SLIDE 19 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. **16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19** And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

- SLIDE 20 **John 17:18 “As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.”**
  - **Personal Story of living sent. Prepared but not ready. Sent from, blessed by, and given authority. Sanctified by the word, unified in His love, and sent just as He was sent.**
- SLIDE 21 **John 17:20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,”**
  - Not just us but those who will believe through their Word. Luke 24 Proclaim the gospel of forgiveness, to all nations.
- SLIDE 22 **John 17:25 “O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. 26 I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”<sup>5</sup>**
- **EXAMPLE Jesus always gives honor to His Father.**

SLIDE 23 **Authority of Jesus:** “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, 2 since you have given him **authority over all flesh**, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Authority: someone has power, they give that power to someone they know and trust to carry out the task. Jesus authority says where it came from. Matthew 28:18 Jesus clearly says All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Jesus is the perfect picture of leadership, delegation, execution, endurance, and fulfilling of His purpose.

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SLIDE 24 **John 17:4 “I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.”**

He lays down His title for the glory of the Father.

**FULFILLMENT and answer to this prayer** John 18-Crucifixion Father forgive them

**Closing Gospel Point: Jesus prays for us! He is praying for you. What is He praying for? Jesus is praying for YOU, ME, US to be sanctified by the truth of His word, unified together as a witness to the world, and to live sent just as Jesus was sent.**

SLIDE 25 “The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.”<sup>6</sup> - Tim Keller

Let the gospel change your life. Jesus prayer change everythings. Friends Jesus prayers are answered.

### Closing Prayer:

Jesus this is my prayer, and I believe it is your prayer for this church family. That Fellowship Bible Church Dallas may be one just as you and the Father are one. That this church may be sanctified by your word, your truth, and that Fellowship may live sent just as your son lived sent on this earth. We pray to you Father, by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the mighty name of your son Jesus Christ. Amen.

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<sup>5</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 17:1–26.

<sup>6</sup> Keller, Timothy, *The Meaning of Marriage: Facing the Complexities of Commitment with the Wisdom of God*