

# The Passion of Jesus

[John 17:20-26– part 3 of 3]

**Week 1 – Easter, Jesus prayed for His glory to be revealed:**

**Week 2 – Jesus prayed for His Disciples as they would interact with a world that is organized without GOD.**

*John 17:20 [Jesus continued praying] “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> 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>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup> O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> 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.”*

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**Common + Unity =** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Welcome to Christian Community

What is it that unites people in a community? Usually, it has something to do with what people hold in common. For example, a sports team is made up of people who all enjoy playing a particular sport. And so, they might come from different backgrounds or education levels, but come together as a team under a coach to organize to play well and head out on a quest to win a league championship.

A book club is made up of people who like to read. And so, they pick a book and have a weekly meeting and share their thoughts and insights about that week’s reading.

A hiking group might be made up of strangers at the beginning, but by the end of their first hike together, various people in the group start a journey of friendship.

A group of buddies who like to go fishing and camping might set a few dates during the summer to get out and enjoy each other’s company in a peaceful setting, eating what you caught that day and sharing fish stories and the camaraderie of the outdoors.

In politics, things are becoming tribal. But it wasn’t quite like that one hundred years ago. Back then, two people with opposing views could go out for dinner, coffee, or a few drinks and debate politics and vehemently disagree, and walk out the door and still be friends because what brought them together was...they were Americans.

Community.

Let us break down that word: Common plus unity equals community. Community is made up of people who hold something in common and have unity and work together because of the greater good of what they hold in common.

## Application Questions:

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**Q<sub>1</sub>:** After reading the above, what is it that Christians hold in common?  
[If you get stuck, read Hebrews 1:1-4]

**Q<sub>2</sub>:** Why should our common belief in Jesus bring us together in unity more than family or politics? [Read John 17:20-23]

**Q<sub>3</sub>:** How do we achieve this unity and to what end?  
[Read John 17:24-26]