

## Welcoming God to Welcome Others

John 17:20-26

- » In the midst of personal crisis Jesus prays for others
- » Jesus prays for all future disciples (us!)
- » We are to be drawn into the divine family of love

### I. Jesus Prays for Future Generations of Believers

I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word

John 17:20

- » Jesus assumes the success of his disciples in mission
- » He believes the church will grow and expand
- » Jesus assumes we will be with him in glory (v24)

### Encouragement

- » Even as we begin we have the encouragement of Jesus prayer
- » Success in our vocation
- » Success in our future destiny

### II. Jesus Prays for Our Unity

that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:21



### Four Parts to This Unity

1. Father you are in me
2. I am in you
3. They may be in us
4. The world may believe that you sent me

### Unity From Above

- » This unity is not initiated simply by our effort
- » But by our union with the Father and Son
- » Their presence in us is the source of our unity

### 3. Jesus Prays for Our Glory

The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one

John 17:22

- » Jesus gives his glory from the father to us
- » The glory is the glory of the cross
- » The glory of the humble way of service
- » Not like the glory of the world

### The Cross is Not a Penalty

- » The cross is our glory
- » The cross is a hard task but also a glorious task

### 4. Jesus Prays for our Indwelling

I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

John 17:23



## Four Parts to This Indwelling (similar to v21)

1. I in them
2. You in me
3. They may be perfected in love
4. That the world may know you sent me

## Missiological Thrust

- » This indwelling has a missiological thrust
- » That the world may also know of God's love
- » That others may join the circle of love (v21, 23)

## 5. Jesus Prays for Our Future Glory

Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

John 17:24

- » Jesus prays that we will be with him in his glory
- » This is a sure promise that Jesus prays for us
- » To taste and see the goodness of the Lord – literally!

And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure' – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

Revelation 19:6-8

## VI. Jesus Prays for Justice

Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.

John 17:25-26

- » Righteous Father (v25) – unique title
- » The character of the Father is just & righteous (your name – v6)

- » The world has not responded to the revelation of Jesus (v25)
- » Thus Jesus prays (justly) for those who have been receptive – they will see/experience God's glory
- » They will experience the love of the Father & Son (v26)

- » From this prayer Jesus immediately goes to Gethsemane and faces his betrayal (John 18:1-10)
- » The disciples are spared
- » Jesus is arrested by the deception of Judas
- » It comes back to Jesus' selfless focus amidst his crisis