



All Christians' Fellowship International

INTERACTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

TOPIC: The Master's Final Prayer

TEXT: John 17:1-26

Instructions - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: The approach of death has a way of bringing our priorities into focus. People who know death is imminent also know what is really important in life and who they really care about. In Jesus' final prayer with his disciples, he prays for himself, for them and for you! Every believer is on Jesus' mind as he faces the greatest trial of his life-the cross.

Discussion Questions:

1. What specific people would you want around you in any specific crisis, and why?
2. Read John 17:1-5. Jesus makes only one request for himself - that the Father would glorify him, so that he might glorify the Father. In what way would each one glorifies the other? Why do you think that was so important to Jesus?
3. To what extent should God 's glory be foremost in a Christian's mind daily? Explain.
4. How is Jesus' definition of eternal life (v. 3) different from merely living forever? In what ways should a Christian actively seek to know the Father and the Son better?
5. Read John 17:6-19. According to these verses, what specific ministries did Jesus have toward his disciples?
6. Twice Jesus asked the Father to protect his disciples from the evil one (v. 11, 15). Why would that protection have been so important in Jesus' mind as he faced the cross?
7. Jesus also asked the Father to sanctify his disciples through his word (v. 17). Discuss how we can allow God's Word to have that kind of effect on our lives
8. Read John 17:20-26. Jesus prayed that those who believe in him would be one, "so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (v. 21, 23)? Why is our unity a powerful argument for the reality of Jesus?

9. In what practical ways can we demonstrate our oneness with other believers? Discuss.

10. Jesus obviously prayed this prayer out loud to bring comfort and assurance to his disciples. In what particular ways do Jesus' words encourage or assure you?

11. How do the concerns that were on Jesus' heart as he faced death match up with the concerns that would be on your heart if you were facing death? How would you account for the difference?