

Week of February 6, 2017

This Week's Focus: Jesus is the glorified Son of God who has eternally existed with the Father, and whose crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension purchased our redemption and glorifies God the Father.

This Week's Text: John 17:1-5

"If Jesus had stopped short of the cross, that would have proved there is a degree of love to which God is not prepared to go for us. The cross proves there is no limits to God's love."

John MacArthur

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- Why is this passage known as Jesus' "High Priestly Prayer"? How does Jesus begin his prayer? Reference verses 1-5. What is the hour that Jesus refers to in verse 1?
- Why is Jesus the only one who can pray for his glory? How does Jesus' glory also give glory to God the Father? What can we learn about the relationship between Jesus and God the Father in this passage?
- As followers of Jesus, what should be the primary desire of our hearts? Reference 1 Corinthians 10:31. Why is giving God glory not something that comes naturally to us?
- What does it mean to know God beyond mere cognitive understanding? How can we grow in knowledge of and affection for God? Why is gospel-centered community important for our spiritual growth?
- How does Jesus describe eternal life in verse 3? How is eternal life both a preset reality and our future hope?
- How does verse 5 reveal the deity of Jesus Christ? What is the work that the Father gave to Jesus which he fully accomplished? With all its pain, humiliation, and rejection, why did Jesus endure the cross?
- How does this passage encourage you to live on mission in your communities and spheres of influence?