

Week of February 12, 2017

This Week's Focus: Jesus is our great high priest whose once-for-all sacrifice on the cross eternally secures and sanctifies all those who believe in him.

This Week's Text: John 17:6-13

"Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen." **Jude 24**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- Why is John 17 known as Jesus' "High Priestly Prayer"? What are the three sections of Jesus' prayer?
- For whom does Jesus pray in this week's passage? Reference verses 6-13. Read verses 6, 16-17. Discuss what it means to be sanctified from the world and in truth. Reference Colossians 1:13-14 and 1 Corinthians 6:11. What does Jesus mean by the word "world" in these verses?
- What is the evidence of the sanctifying work of God in a person's life? Reference John 17:8 and Colossians 3:12. How can we live separate from the world without isolating ourselves from the world?
- What does Jesus pray for his disciples in verses 9-12? Discuss the unique love that Jesus has for his own as revealed in this passage. Why is it significant that Jesus says, "not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction"? What is the foundation of our eternal security and how is it linked to our sanctification? Reference Psalm 20:7 and Proverbs 18:10.
- Discuss how Jesus' prayer for protection teaches us to be:
 - o Humble
 - Hopeful
 - Holy
- How does this passage encourage you to live on mission in your communities and spheres of influence?