

# The Gospel According To John

## Jesus' High-Priestly Prayer – part three

*John 17:20-26*

### Jesus Prays for All Believers

#### Jesus' Desire for His people:

##### 1. That they may one:

- **That the world would know the truth of Jesus as God's sent one (v. 21, 23)**
  - We are to have an observable unity.
  - There should be a common adherence to the gospel and self-sacrificing commitment to the shared goal of the mission with which Jesus' followers have been charged.
- **In "Us" (v. 21)**
  - Identified with God and dependent upon Him for life and fruitfulness.
  - Ours is a spiritual unity – Christ in us – a unity of spiritual life in one body with a common mission and heart to glorify God.
- **As the Father and Jesus are one (v. 21, 22)**
  - Like the Father and Son, believers are distinct but one in a spiritual union of purpose, love, nature, and thus, submission to the revelation received.
- **In a unity produced by the glory given (v. 22)**
  - Glory here seems to refer to the manifestation of God's character or person in a revelatory context.
  - Jesus has shown us the character of God. He has made known to us His amazing plan to save a people out of the world, make them God-lovers, and take them to live with Him forever.
  - Finally, He has purchased a work of the Spirit to make this happen. In the New Covenant we have a love and knowledge written in the hearts of men.

##### 2. That they may be with Him:

- **To behold His glory (v. 24)**
  - God gives us the greatest gift – Himself and the joy of seeing and savoring His glory in Christ in unveiled splendor.

##### 3. That they might know God and His amazing love:

- **Loved even as Christ Himself is loved by the Father (v. 23)**
  - Loved before the foundation of the world (v. 24)
  - Christians are caught up together in the love of the Father for the Son. Wow!
- **This greater manifestation of His name leads to a growing and over-flowing love (v. 26).**
  - The promise is that believers will be so transformed, as God is continually made known to them, that God's own love for his Son will become their love. The love with which they learn to love is nothing less than the love amongst the persons of the Godhead (v. 26).
  - There will be a continual manifestation of God's glory to His people (v. 26).