



SMALL GROUP GUIDE: THE PRAYER

The Prayer of Jesus (John 17:1-8)

Opening Question:

What stood out to you most from this week's sermon on Jesus' prayer in John 17?

Key Takeaways:

1. Jesus declares His equality with God the Father in this prayer.
2. Jesus' glory is not dependent on us, but existed before creation.
3. Believing Jesus is God allows us to trust His eternal promises and daily commands.
4. Eternal life is defined as knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is it significant that Jesus prays for His own glorification? How does this relate to His divinity?
2. The sermon mentioned several religious views of Jesus. How do these differ from the biblical view presented in John 17? Why are these differences important?
3. Pastor Brian said, "If we believe that Jesus is God, what does that mean for today?" How would you answer this question?
4. Reflect on this question from the sermon: "What am I having difficulty believing that Jesus has said in this moment in my life?" Share your thoughts with the group.
5. How does understanding Jesus' pre-existence and shared glory with the Father impact your view of His incarnation and crucifixion?
6. The sermon contrasted Satan's desire for glory with Jesus' approach. What can we learn from this about true glory and our own attitudes?

7. How does the definition of eternal life in John 17:3 challenge or encourage you?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, identify one area where you struggle to trust Jesus' promises or commands. Commit to praying about this daily, asking God to increase your faith.
2. Reflect on how you view Jesus' glory. Are there ways you've been trying to add to it rather than simply recognizing it?
3. Choose one attribute of Jesus discussed in the sermon (e.g., His pre-existence, His authority, His unity with the Father) and spend time meditating on it this week.
4. Practice sharing the gospel using Romans 10:9-13 as outlined in the sermon. Role-play with a partner in the group.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for allowing us to witness Jesus' intimate prayer with the Father. Ask for help in truly knowing God and Jesus Christ, embracing the eternal life He offers.