

# ENCOUNTERJESUS

### Week 29 | THE POWER OF HIS PRAYERS | John 17:1-26

#### IT'S NOT THAT YOU ARE GOING TO BE SENT. IT'S THAT YOU ARE SENT. THE MOMENT YOU SURRENDERED TO JESUS IN FAITH. YOU WERE APPOINTED TO GOD'S MISSION. IF YOU'RE SAVED, YOU'RE SENT.

Have you ever wondered why there aren't more recorded prayers of Christ in the gospel accounts? The prayers that are recorded are mostly what I call staccato prayers. Short prayers or pieces of prayers. Prayers like the one in the Garden of Gethsemane, in front of Lazarus' tomb, or the blessing of the bread and fish that fed 5000. But there is one prayer that is the exception. This prayer consummated the upper room discourse and preceded the agony in the garden and the crucifixion. It's what some call the High Priestly prayer, but one that I call the Revelation prayer. I call it that because this prayer reveals the glorious eternal story that God is writing as He redeemed humanity from sin-brokenness through His Son, creating His own special and ever-expanding community of followers that carry on the mission of Christ to reach the lost and bring Him glory. The prayer is not only a revelation, but it is powerful. Working for 2000 years, answered in the lives of millions if not billions of people, including you! And now you have the opportunity to live on God's mission to see this prayer fulfilled in the lives of others! I would say that is an amazing prayer.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



## PRAY (10 min)

As a Life Group, reflect and pray over this weekend's message. Think about the ways this prayer has been answered in your life and the lives of others. Thank God for His heart to reach us through Jesus and heal us from our sins.



### **REFLECT** (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

#### 1. Spend time discussing this prayer (John 17:1-26) and your observations and learning points as you've read and studied it.

2. Derek discussed the mission of God or the missio dei, as some call it. What is the mission of God? Is this part of the framework through which you see your relationship with God?



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## IF THE GREAT COMMISSION IS THE COMMAND TO CONTINUE GOD'S MISSION THIS REVELATION PRAYER IS THE REASON, THE HEART, AND THE EXPLANATION BEHIND IT.

3. This prayer contains amazing facets of the robust life of the church. Derek contended that all of these facets (eternal life, unity, the keeping power of God, sanctification, love) are like diamonds set in a ring. They are beautiful in and of themselves, but they are set in such a way as to radiate God's kingdom to the lost collectively. In other words, their main purpose is to fulfill His mission. In this prayer, Jesus connects each of them to God's mission. **Consider each facet mentioned above and how you see God using them to reach the lost for Christ.** 

## WE FOSTER THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH TO RADIATE GOD'S KINGDOM TO THE LOST AND TO EXPAND THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST FOLLOWERS FOR THE GLORY OF THE FATHER AND SON.

4. Derek said, "If you're saved, you're sent." How are you living out God's mission to continue Christ's work in reaching lost people with the gospel? How is your life radiating God's kingdom in simple but meaningful ways to people?

#### WHEN YOU LIVE FOR CHRIST, YOUR LIFE RADIATES HIS KINGDOM TO THE LOST.

# WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

JOHN 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

#### THIS WEEK'S MISSIONAL LIVING TIP:

Pray for our Awaken Church Community. Pray for pastors and their wives. Pray for healthy and vibrant churches that are reaching the lost. Pray that God expands our church planting efforts in our city and worldwide.



## REACH (5 min)

Begin each day with the simple acknowledgment in prayer to God that you are saved and sent on His mission. Embrace the appointing of God to this in your life and expect God to reveal Himself to others as you naturally live out your Christian life.