

JESUS PRAYS

As preached on Sunday, June 21st

Read: John 17:1-26

1. John 17 is one of only three of Jesus' prayers that are recorded in this gospel (there are numerous additional times Jesus prays but we don't see the words he prayed). Why do you suppose John decided to share with us what Jesus prayed on this occasion? What do you sense of Jesus' heart in the words that are recorded here?
2. In vv.1-5 Jesus prays to his heavenly Father concerning himself. What is his prayer?
3. What does Jesus mean in v.3 when he defines eternal life as "that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent"?
4. In vv.6-19 Jesus prays for his disciples. In v.9 he says, "I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours." What does this mean? Why is Jesus not praying for the world? Is this verse talking about the doctrine of predestination?
5. What does Jesus mean when he prays in v.17, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth"?
6. In vv.20-26 Jesus prays for all believers. How does it feel to know that Jesus prayed for you?
7. Jesus prays in v.21 that we, all Christians, would be one "just as you are in me and I am in you"? What does that mean? What do you think that kind of "oneness" would look like among Christians today?
8. What can we learn from Jesus' prayer in John 17 that applies to our own prayer life? (explain) How will you apply it?