

Jesus' Prayer for the Disciples
John 17:20-26
9-18-22

- Please share any praises or wins you have had since we last met with the group.
 - Share any losses or prayer concerns you have had since we last met with the group.
1. This text continues into the third portion of Jesus' prayer – a prayer of Unity for His disciples. Define unity and why this is important.
 2. Read out loud John 17:21 and 17:23 “becoming one” means what? Why is this important?
 3. Christ was praying that believers might **be one** in exhibiting the character of God and Christ. This would cause **the world to believe that God** had sent Him. **This unity makes the world say, “I see Christ in those Christians as the Father was seen in Christ.”** How is this unity practically played out?
 4. The first point was summarized by stating that Jesus was praying for all future generations. His prayer for future Christians has been answered over and over again. Explain how this prayer is answered.

What happens if there is a generation where this prayer is not answered?
 5. Our unity in Christ lets others know that God sent Christ (vs. 21 and 23.). Why is agreement on the fundamentals essential? What happens when we disagree on the fundamentals of doctrine? Examples: virgin birth, salvation by grace, atonement by Christ alone, etc.
 6. What happens when preferences and cultural norms sever unity? How does this affect our witness and discipleship when so many fundamental believers take a different position?

Does standing firm on past or present cultural norms misrepresent the Gospel?

What is the answer?