

March 15 Discussion Questions

“United in Christ”

John 17:1-26

Review

May God be glorified through Jesus

“Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you.” John 17:1

May Jesus be glorified through a United Church

“The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one... that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me.” John 17:22-23

Gifts from Jesus for our Unity:

1. His **Love** to connect us (v. 2-3, 26)
2. His **Name** to protect us (v. 6, 11; Rom. 10:13; Acts 4:12)
3. His **Word** to perfect us (v. 8, 17)
4. His **Glory** to reflect from us (v. 22-23)

Connect

1. What past group have you shared great unity with? What contributed to that unity? What did this unity produce for the group members and those outside the group?
2. Envision the churches around the Bay working together in unity for the Gospel. What does that look like? What will it take for that to happen? What result would it produce?

Read John 17:1-26

Discuss

3. According to v.1-4 what was the nature of Jesus’ relationship with the Father? How did this relationship influence His mission and purpose?
4. What specific things does Jesus pray for throughout this passage? How does this encourage you? How does this challenge you?
5. Why do you think unity in the church was such an important issue for Jesus?
6. What tends to work against unity within the church? How does the Gospel speak into that?
7. What do you think it means to be “one, even as we are one” in v.11? Be specific!

8. What do we receive from Jesus that advances our unity? (see v.3, 8, 11, 17, 22-23, 26)
9. Why does the world need a relational apologetic (or a reason to believe in Jesus based on the unifying love His disciples share)?

Apply

10. What do you practically do to fight for unity in the body of Christ? What can you do a better job of?
11. What relationship lacks unity in your life right now? How can Christ be glorified by attempting to mend that relationship?
12. Is locking arms with other churches for the Gospel in Tampa Bay a worthwhile endeavor? What are some practical steps we could take to pursue this desire?
13. What are some practical things we can be doing right now to glorify Jesus in light of the coronavirus pandemic?

Pray

14. Pray for the Holy Spirit to further unite your Community Group, our church, and the other churches around Tampa Bay for the Gospel. Pray that this unity will intensify our witness and bring many new people to Christ!