



## JOHN CHAPTER 17 (FACILITATOR)

### **Discussion Starter**

- Are you a glass half full type of person or glass half empty type of person?
- How do you usually respond when you encounter a difficult situation?
- Opening Prayer
  - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

### **Tell the Story**

- PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.

### **Read the Story (John 17:1-26)**

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

### **Breaking it Down**

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

## John 17:1-5

- What are the differences between knowing facts about someone and knowing a person well and being in a relationship with that person?
  - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
    - Notice that Jesus says that eternal life is knowing God and knowing Him. This word “knowing” has the meaning behind it of “being intimately acquainted with.” It’s not just a relationship based upon facts or intellect.
    - Are there any ways that you struggle with God being intimately acquainted with you and you being intimately acquainted with Him?
      - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- Why do you think that Jesus consistently speaks of “glory” being connected to His going to the cross (an instrument of punishment and death that was viewed as a curse)?
  - While the cross certainly wasn’t beautiful in any way, the fact that Jesus was willing to fully surrender all of Himself to His Father seeking His glory in absolutely everything that He did and said.
    - In what ways do you seek the glory of others including yourself over and above seeking the glory of God? What can you do to change this?
      - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### John 17:6-13

□ Notice that Jesus is expressing this incredible confidence in the work that God is doing in the lives of His disciples. But also notice that Jesus is expressing confidence in His disciples regarding them being used as tools and instruments.

○ Do you have full confidence that God is excited and desirous of using you as His instrument in this world? Why or why not?

▪ These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### John 17:14-26

□ Why did Jesus pray for His disciples (you and me) to not be taken out of the world when He knew that the world is a very dark and broken place many times?

○ Jesus' desire was that His disciples (you and me) live extremely engaged lives with the world around us, lives that speak very loudly about the victory that God has provided in the midst of brokenness and darkness.

▪ In what ways do you need to live a more fully engaged life with the world around you for the sake of the kingdom of God?

• This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

□ Why do you think Jesus prays for the unity of His disciples before He is about to depart?

○ How high are the stakes when it comes to the relationships that brothers and sisters in Christ have with one another?

▪ How do you know? See John 13:34-35.

- In what ways do you need to more intentionally pursue unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ?
- These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Final Application**

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

### **Closing & Prayer Requests**

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (John Chapter 18)



## JOHN CHAPTER 17 (STUDENT)

### **Discussion Starter**

- Are you a glass half full type of person or glass half empty type of person?
- How do you usually respond when you encounter a difficult situation?

### **John 17:1-5**

- What are the differences between knowing facts about someone and knowing a person well and being in a relationship with that person?
  - Notice that Jesus says that eternal life is knowing God and knowing Him. This word “knowing” has the meaning behind it of “being intimately acquainted with.” It’s not just a relationship based upon facts or intellect.
  - Are there any ways that you struggle with God being intimately acquainted with you and you being intimately acquainted with Him?
- Why do you think that Jesus consistently speaks of “glory” being connected to His going to the cross (an instrument of punishment and death that was viewed as a curse)?
  - In what ways do you seek the glory of others including yourself over and above seeking the glory of God? What can you do to change this?

### **John 17:6-13**

- Notice that Jesus is expressing this incredible confidence in the work that God is doing in the lives of His disciples. But also notice that Jesus is expressing confidence in His disciples regarding them being used as tools and instruments.
  - Do you have full confidence that God is excited and desirous of using you as His instrument in this world? Why or why not?

### **John 17:14-26**

- Why did Jesus pray for His disciples (you and me) to not be taken out of the world when He knew that the world is a very dark and broken place many times?
  - In what ways do you need to live a more fully engaged life with the world around you for the sake of the kingdom of God?
- Why do you think Jesus prays for the unity of His disciples before He is about to depart?
  - How high are the stakes when it comes to the relationships that brothers and sisters in Christ have with one another?
    - How do you know? See John 13:34-35.
    - In what ways do you need to more intentionally pursue unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ?

### **Final Application**

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?

- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?