

John 16:16-17:26

The Disciples' Sorrow Turned into Joy; The Lord's Prayer

Day 1

Read John 16:16-33

Sorrow to joy

1. How well did the disciples understand Jesus' approaching death and resurrection? 16:16-18
 - Why should the disciples have understood what was going to happen? Mark 8:31-32; 9:31-32; 10:32-34 (Why do you think it was so hard for them to understand?)

2. How would the experience of the disciples differ from the world's? 16:20

3. How did Jesus describe the "joy" they would have?
 - 16:21

 - 16:22 (Compare John 20:20)

 - 16:24

4. What new experience were the disciples going to have in prayer after Jesus' departure? 16:23,24a
 - Why makes this access possible? Eph. 3:12; Heb. 10:19,20

The Father's love

5. When and what kind of change was going to occur in the disciple's understanding? 16:25 (Compare John 10:6; 12:16)

Optional Digging Deeper

What phrases describe Jesus' role on our behalf?

Romans 8:34

1 Timothy 2:5

1 John 2:1

6. Why could the disciples be sure of the Father's love? 16:27 (Compare John 6:45,46)

IT'S GREEK TO ME "**came forth**" NT:1831 *exerchomai*; to issue (literally or figuratively)

"It carried the idea of nature, for He who came out from the Father revealed the Father's nature to the world." - Tenney (241)

7. What does each phrase in 16:28 reveal about Jesus? (Compare Philippians 2:5-11)

- "*came forth from the Father*" - His preexistence and divine nature
- "*have come into the world*" (See 1:14)
- "*am leaving the world again*"
- "*going to the Father*"

8. How did the disciples react to Jesus' statement? 16:29,30

For Your Information: "We believe that you came from God" "This affirmation transcended that given by Peter in [John] 6:69: 'We have believed and know that thou art the Holy One of God.' In the former instance, Peter was ascribing to Jesus a title; on this occasion, the disciples were testifying to belief in His origin and divine nature." - Merrill Tenney (242)

9. In spite of their declaration of faith, what did Jesus know would happen that very night? 16:32 (See Matthew 26:31, 55-56)

Christ's peace

10. Even though the disciples were going to fail Him, what reassurance did Jesus give them? 16:33a (What phrase describes where peace is found?)

- What two things did Jesus say about this world in 16:33b? (Cf. John 15:19,20. Compare 2 Timothy 3:12-13; 1 John 5:3-5)

IT'S GREEK TO ME "**overcome**" Strong's #3528 *nikao*; to subdue (literally or figuratively): Also translated KJV - conquer, overcome, prevail, get the victory. - Strong's Concordance

"Jesus has '**overcome the world**'...As harsh and unrelenting as the world's opposition to Jesus and His gospel may become, it will never be permitted to extinguish either the blazing fire of His truth or the illuminating light of His Word. The enemy that attacks the flock is already defeated. Neither Satan nor his minions are able to harm Christ's sheep. This certainty allows the disciples to experience 'peace' even in the atmosphere of all out war." - Mike Calvert

"The close relationship with Christ which the disciple sustains afford him surcease from conflict, from fear, and from doubt. '**In the world**' is tribulation; '**in Christ**' is peace. Victory over the forces and circumstances that circumscribe human life is attainable through Him, for He has overcome the world by His cross." - Merrill Tenney (242,243)

"Outside of Jesus, there is no peace." - Africa Bible Commentary (1288)

11. In summary, how had Jesus assured and encouraged the disciples?

- 16:7,13
- 16:22,24
- 16:27
- 16:33

Applying the Word: *Even as He was revealing His love, Jesus knew that the disciples would fail Him. Do you ever worry that God will remove His love or protection from you? Read Romans 8:31-39. What does this say to you?*

Day 2

Food for Thought: "As we approach this great passage we seem to hear a voice saying 'Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground'...In this seventeenth chapter we are permitted, like Peter, James and John in the garden of Gethsemane, to stand by while the Son of God enters into communion with the Father...The Prologue [John 1:1-18] takes us back to 'the beginning', when the Word was 'with God.' Chapter seventeen speaks of 'before the world was' and 'before the foundation of the world.' The Prologue speaks of creation and incarnation, grace and glory, but it is left to this chapter to speak of unutterable loves. The Prologue tells us that when the Word became flesh and dwelt (tabernacled) among us, we beheld His glory; the Prayer of John 17, is that the believer may be made one with the Father and with the Son and behold and share His glory and His love."
- Charles Welch (364,365)

Read John 17:1-8

Jesus' prayer for Himself

12. What two petitions did Jesus make for Himself?

- 17:1
- 17:5

For Your Information: *"Glorify Your Son. That Your Son may glorify You" (17:1)*
"Glorify" refers to the Lord's crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, which would vindicate the truth of His teaching and His identity as the Son of God. The 'hour' had been appointed before the beginning of time; it was the destiny to which Jesus had been born (Daniel 7:13,14)
- Charles Swindoll (288,289)

13. How did Jesus define eternal life? 17:2,3 (Compare Isaiah 11:9; Habakkuk 2:14)

IT'S GREEK TO ME "know" ginosko NT:1097 signifies "to be taking in knowledge, to come to know, recognize, understand," ...frequently indicates a relation between the person "knowing" and the object known..." - Vine's Expository Dictionary
"The prayer as a whole is keyed to one central idea, eternal life; for it is Jesus' petition that He may be glorified in order that eternal life may be made available to men...The objects of this knowledge are personal: 'the only true [real] God, and Jesus Christ' whom He sent. Eternal life is the end of the philosopher's quest for ultimate reality, and of the scientist's search for truth. It is not the quest of the academician alone...it is a personal acquaintance. 'I know him whom I have believed' (2 Tim. 1:12), not 'what I have believed,' is the final expression of triumphant Christ experience."
- Merrill Tenney (246)

14. What titles did Jesus use to address the Father in this prayer?

- 17:1
- 17:3 (Compare 1 Thessalonians 1:9)
- 17:11
- 17:25

15. What does 17:5 tell you about Jesus' origins/power/nature? (Cf. 1:1. Compare Isaiah 42:8)

16. List what the Father *gave* the Son:

17:2	
17:4	
17:6,9,24	
17:8	
17:11	
17:22	

17. Summarize the work that Jesus had done:

17:4	
17:6, 26	(Compare 2 Corinthians 4:6)
17:8,14	
17:12	
17:18	
17:22	

IT'S GREEK TO ME "**Manifested/revealed**" (17:6) *phaneroo* NT:5319, "to make visible, clear, manifest," known...The true meaning is "to uncover, lay bare reveal."
- Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words

"The Son not only taught divine truth, He represented divine truth in His very presence. To see the Son is to see the Father."
- Charles Swindoll (290)

Applying the Word: John 17 allows us to stand on Holy ground and listen in as the Son of God enters into personal communion with the Father. How does your concept of Jesus compare to His description of Himself in 17:1-5?

Day 3

Read John 17:6-19

Jesus prays for the disciples

18. List the responses (note the verbs) the disciples had to Jesus' teachings. 17:6b-8

19. How did Jesus relate the disciples to Himself and the Father? 17:9,10

- How do you think Jesus was glorified in the disciples (17:10b)? Compare Philippians 1:20; 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

20. What was the first request Jesus made for the disciples? 17:11

21. Why would they need protection?

- 17:11-13a
- 17:14
- 17:15

IT'S GREEK TO ME "**keep/protect**" NT:5083 *tereo*; to guard (from loss or injury, properly, by keeping the eye upon "**perdition**" Strong's #684 *apoleia*; ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal) - Strong's Concordance

"The world, the flesh, and the devil are so mighty, so pervasive, and so seductive, we could never keep ourselves in our own efforts. If we stay with Jesus, it is because Jesus has prayed for us "Father, keep them." - David Guzik

"Two words are used in verses 11 and 12, 'kept' and 'guarded.' The former means protection by restraint...The second word...refers to protection from external peril. Taken together, the words give a picture of complete deliverance from all perils, within and without. Eternal life means a lasting security."
- Merrill Tenney (246,247)

22. Read through the following verses about the “name” of the Lord:

- *Exodus 34:5-7 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin...NIV*
 - *Psalms 9:10 Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you. NIV*
 - *Psalms 20:7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. NIV*
 - *Psalms 91:14-15 "Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name. "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. NASU*
 - *Proverbs 18:10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. NIV*
 - *Philippians 2:9-10 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, NIV*
- How do these verses add to your understanding of Jesus’ request for the disciples to be kept “in Your name, the name which You have given Me.”

For Your Information: “the Name” “The connection between a name and the reality it signified is nowhere more important than in the names referring to God. The personal name of God revealed to Moses in the burning bush-“I AM WHO I AM”-conveyed something of His character (Ex 3:14). According to Ex 34:5-6, when the Lord “proclaimed the name of the Lord,” He added words that described His character. The name of the Lord was virtually synonymous with His presence: “For your wondrous works declare that your name is near” (Ps 75:1). To know the name of God is thus to know God Himself (Ps 91:14). For this reason, to “take the name of the Lord your God in vain” (Ex 20:7) is to act in any way that is inconsistent with the profession that He is the Lord God.”
- Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary

23. What effect did Jesus want His prayer to have on the disciples? 17:13 (Cf. 15:11; 16:24)

24. Why does the world hate believers? 17:14 (What is the cause of this animosity? Cf. 7:7)

25. What was Jesus’ second request for the disciples? 17:15

- Why do we need this protection? 1 Peter 5:8-9
- How protected are we? 2 Thessalonians 3:3; 1 John 4:4; 5:18)

26. Why is it important that we not be taken “out of the world” (17:15)? 17:18 (See Matt. 5:13-16)

- What difference do you see between being “of the world” (17:14) versus “in the world?”

27. What was Jesus’ third request for the disciples? 17:17

- How are we sanctified? 17:17,19 (See Hebrews 10:10,14)

IT’S GREEK TO ME “Sanctify means to be set apart for God’s special pleasure and use. It implies holiness, being set apart from the corruption of the world and for God’s use. Jesus didn’t just leave the disciples to sanctify themselves. He prayed for their sanctification. This process, as the keeping process, is not left to us alone; it is a work of God in us and through us.”

- David Guzik

“In the voluntary dedication of the Lord Jesus Christ to the work assigned to Him by the father, He sanctified Himself, and accomplished the sanctification of believers also.”

- Merrill Tenney (248)

Applying the Word: Charles Swindoll wrote (292,293): *“I can think of few experiences more humbling and encouraging than hearing the prayers of another on my behalf. When earthly concerns bear down on my shoulders and squeeze my temples, hearing someone carry my burdens to heaven is relief I can barely describe. I feel understood. I know that someone empathizes with my struggle and takes it seriously enough to unite his spirit with mine in seeking God’s intervention. I receive confidence. Hearing the intercession of another gives me reasonable assurance that my own prayers are consistent with God’s values. I grow wiser. The prayer of another offers perspectives I had not considered. I find courage. Someone with more objectivity can pray with greater confidence in the power and goodness of God, which is always infectious. I gain perspective. People who haven’t been discouraged by suffering are better able to see my struggle from an eternal perspective, and that is always helpful. I am comforted...Imagine hearing the Son of God approach His Father on your behalf. Imagine the encouragement, confidence, wisdom, courage, and perspective you would gain by hearing Him intercede for you. What a marvelous gift the Lord gave His disciples on the eve of His torment!”*
Read Hebrews 7:25. How do you envision the Lord’s intercession and desires for you?

Day 4

Read John 17:20-26

Jesus prays for all believers

28. Who else did Jesus include in His prayer? 17:20 (What was He anticipating about the disciples’ work?)

29. As Christ opened up His prayer for all believers, what were His first two prayer requests? (Mark the phrase “that they may...” in 17:21-23)

- 17:21,22
- 17:23

30. What is the basis for unity among believers? (See Romans 12:5; Colossians 3:11)

Food for Thought: "Uniformity seeks to unite wheat and tares; it can't be done. Unity of institutions does not insure unity of the Spirit... Jesus wanted a unity of love, and common identity in Jesus."
- David Guzik

31. What would be the result of this oneness? (Mark the 2 phrases beginning with "that the world may...")

- 17:21c
- 17:23b

32. Besides unity, what else did Jesus pray for believers to have? 17:24 (Compare Colossians 3:3-4; Ephesians 2:6,7)

33. What knowledge had Jesus made known? 17:25b-26a

34. What did Jesus want all believers to have? 17:26b (Cf. 14:23)

35. Note the phrase "You (have) loved me" in 17:23,24,26. Why would this be an important thing for the disciples to understand in the coming days?

Optional Digging Deeper
Memorize John 16:33

Food for Thought: "In the brief hours from late afternoon until almost midnight [Chapter 13-17], Jesus had made His last address to the disciples and His final report to the Father. He had brought His followers to the point of declaring belief in him (16:30,31); and had commended them to the Father's care. The concluding stage of the conflict of belief and unbelief was about to begin, and He must go forth to face the storm."
- Merrill Tenney (249.250)

Applying the Word: "The prayer concludes with the great secret of Christian living - Jesus and His love indwelling the believer." - David Guzik
Have you ever longed to be a part of a certain group or family? What does the love and fellowship that we have in Christ mean to you?