**Faith Bible Church Care Group Questions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Jesus’ Prayer for Unity in Love** |
| ***John 17:20–23*** |
| For the week of: February 8, 2016 |

**Introduction**

In John 17, Jesus prays for the 11 disciples and their ongoing ministry of gospel witness (17:6–19). But in v. 20, Jesus transitions and focuses His prayer on a much wider group of people. The focus/theme of His prayer is on unity in God’s love.

**I. The Request for Unity (v. 21a)**

1. Why is Christian unity such a difficult challenge for the church today?
2. What did Jesus mean when He prayed “that they all may be one”? What are some specific ways the body of Christ can demonstrate unity?

**II. The Roots of Unity (vv. 21b–22)**

1. Jesus gives two “roots” or grounds for Christian unity in love. The first is found in v. 21b. What is it and how does it help the believer?
2. In v. 22, Jesus gives the 2nd root of Christian unity in love.
	1. What is “the glory” Jesus describes in this verse?
	2. In what way do Christians have this glory today? (cf. 2 Cor 3:18; Col 1:27)
	3. How does this glory bring unity to the church?

**III. The Reason for Unity (v. 23)**

1. What is the ultimate reason for our unity as believers?
2. How does the church’s unity in love provide a compelling and appealing witness to the unbeliever? (Col 3:12–14; John 13:35)
3. At the end of v. 23, Jesus also wants the world to know just how much we are loved by God the Father.
	1. Why does Jesus pray for this to be revealed to the world?
	2. What kind of love is this?

**Conclusion/Application**

1. When we lose sight of God’s love for us, we weaken the very glue that holds our unity together. Why is this so? In other words, why is the believing and receiving of the love of God so critical for our unity as believers?
2. What are some of the lies that attack the truth of God’s love for you? What is the ultimate solution to doubts concerning God’s love? (cf. Rom 5:8; 8:31–39)