

Small Group Discussion Guide — March 14, 2021

- Series: Way, Truth, Life
 - Sermon: The Bottom Line
 - Scripture: John 17: 1-12 (NIV)
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FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST WEEK:

How did the reality of being grafted into the living vine (Jesus) play out in your life this week? Did you discover any other “vines” that you’ve attached yourself to, outside of Jesus? If so, how have you dealt with that?

CONNECT:

1. What stood out to you from this past week’s service, and why?
2. If you could be a fly on the wall for one event in history, what would it be?

ENGAGE:

1. Read John 17: 1-5.
 - What does Jesus mean by “the time has come”? Contrast this with John 2: 1-4.
 - What is Jesus’ first request to the Father? What does this mean, and why is it significant?
2. Read verses 6-12.
 - Who is the focal point of Jesus’ prayer?
 - In verse 11, what is Jesus’ main concern?
3. Why do you think the word “glorify” or “glory” is repeated so many times in this passage? How would you translate this word?

APPLY:

1. Considering this was Jesus’ prayer right before his arrest, beating, and crucifixion, what does it teach us about how to approach times of crisis and testing in our lives?
2. How are your prayers for others like and unlike Jesus’ prayer? Do your prayers reflect the short-term urgent, or the long-term important needs that people have? What can you apply to your prayer life from this chapter? *
3. How does Jesus define *eternal life* in this passage? How does that compare with the way you’ve understood this term before? How can you cultivate this life on a daily basis?
4. This week, whom have you glorified by the way you’ve lived? How so?

PRAY:

Holy Father, thank you that Jesus was faithful to your plan of salvation, even to the very end. As He obeyed you and made it his first priority to bring you glory, may our first and strongest desire be to bring glory to your name. Bring us closer to you each moment, so we may experience the eternal life that you offer. In Jesus name, Amen.

GOING DEEPER

1. Read John 16, as we did not cover it in this sermon series. What stands out to you from this chapter? How does it lead up to chapter 17, the focus of our sermon this week? Why is it significant?
2. This was Jesus' longest recorded prayer recorded in scripture, spoken right before his suffering and execution. If you were praying what you knew would be your last prayer on earth, what would you pray for?

* Serendipity Bible for Groups