



ONE HEART FOR COOPERATION

John 17:20-26

Jesus - *“I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in Me through their message. 21 I pray that they will all be one, just as You and I are one - as You are in Me, Father, and I am in You. And may they be in Us so that the world will believe You sent Me. 22 “I have given them the glory You gave Me, so they may be one as We are one. 23 I am in them and You are in Me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that You sent Me and that You love them as much as You love Me. 24 Father, I want these whom You have given Me to be with Me where I am. Then they can see all the glory You gave Me because You loved Me even before the world began! 25 “O righteous Father, the world doesn’t know You, but I do; and these disciples know You sent Me. 26 I have revealed You to them, and I will continue to do so. Then Your love for Me will be in them, and I will be in them.”* (John 17:20-26)

- **Jesus is omnipotent, omni-present and omniscient – and He knows what is most needed for us if we are to “overcome the world” and “glorify Him.”**
- Jesus - *“I have told you all this so that you may have peace in Me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”* (John 16:33)
- **The prayer that Jesus taught His disciples is actually the “Model Prayer,” while Jesus’ prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane (John 17) is the real “Lord’s Prayer.”**
 - **The *Lord’s Prayer* includes focuses on Jesus (John 17:1-5), on His present Disciples (John 17:6-19), and on His future Disciples (John 17:20-26).**
 - **The “*Lord’s Prayer*” (John 17), an intimate conversation between Jesus and the Heavenly Father, has great implications and instructions for our lives.**
- Jesus - *“Glorify Your Son so He can give glory back to You.”* (John 17:1)
- **In the last part of the “*Lord’s Prayer*,” Jesus prays for His Church to cooperate with Him and with one another.**

Cooperation With One Another Requires:

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER (John 17:20-23)

- Jesus - *“I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in Me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as You and I are one - as*

You are in Me, Father, and I am in You. And may they be in Us so that the world will believe You sent Me." (John 17:20-21)

- **Earlier in His prayer Jesus had mentioned unity between Christians (John 17:11), but at this moment in His prayer that focus becomes the burden of His heart.**
- **Spiritual unity is a rare quality – but it can and should be experienced by all Christians.**
- *"This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ."* (Ephesians 4:13)
- **We need to be unified with other Christians in our Minds (Philippians 1:27), our Mission (Matthew 16:18-19), and our Ministry (Matthew 28:19-20).**
- **What did Jesus pray for?**
- **Jesus prayed for His current disciples and *We Should Be Praying For Our Fellow Believers.***
 - *"Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere."* (Ephesians 6:18)
- **Jesus prayed for His future disciples and *We Should Be Praying For Our Friends, Relatives, Associates And Neighbors To Become Disciples Of Jesus.***
 - *"For Jesus is the One referred to in the Scriptures... There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved."* (Acts 4:11-12)
- **Jesus prayed for His disciples to be unified, and *We Should Be Praying For Healing And A Unifying Of The Divisions Within God's Church.***
 - *"Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace."* (Ephesians 4:2-3)
- **Jesus prayed for His disciples' impact on the world and *We Should Be Praying That The Unity Of Our Church Brings Salvation To The World.***
 - Jesus - *"May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that You sent Me and that You love them as much as You love Me."* (John 17:23)

Cooperation With One Another Requires:

GIVING GLORY TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER (John 17:24)

- Jesus - *"Father, I want these whom You have given Me to be with Me where I am. Then they can see all the glory You gave Me because You loved Me even before the world began!"* (John 17:24)
- **When everyone focuses on giving Glory to God, then it becomes impossible for us to tolerate conflict, offense, and separation within the Kingdom of God.**
- Paul to Corinthians - *"So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. Don't give offense to Jews or Gentiles or the church of God."* (1 Corinthians 10:31-32)
- **The word "glory" describes everything God wants to do in our lives and everything He intends for our future as Christians and as the Church.**

- **Spiritual Maturity is impossible without learning what it means to give “Glory” to God.**
- *“Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All glory to Him, both now and forever! Amen.” (2 Peter 3:18)*

Cooperation With One Another Requires:

KNOWING THE HEART OF JESUS (John 17:25)

- Jesus - *“O righteous Father, the world doesn’t know You, but I do; and these disciples know You sent Me.” (John 17:25)*
- **Jesus’ love for humankind is why He left heaven to give His life and bring salvation to the people of the earth.**
- *“God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” (Romans 5:8)*
- **We need to have a Heart for the Father**
 - *“See how very much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don’t recognize that we are God’s children because they don’t know Him.” (1 John 3:1)*
- **We need to have a Heart for our Fellow Disciples**
 - *“Among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant.” (Matthew 20:26)*
- **We need to have a Heart for the Mission**
 - *“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)*

Cooperation With One Another Requires:

LOVING OTHERS THROUGH JESUS (John 17:26)

- Jesus - *“I have revealed You to them, and I will continue to do so. Then Your love for Me will be in them, and I will be in them.” (John 17:26)*
- **When nothing else seems to be working, we can fall back upon loving one another because the love of Christ alone solves many problems.**
- *“Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4:8)*
- **The love of Christ is what brings people together when they have differences and different opinions.**
- *“If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn’t love others, I would be nothing.” (1 Corinthians 13:2)*
- **Unity and Harmony within the body of Christ is a priority to God and should be a priority to us.**

- *“Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace.”* (Colossians 3:14-15)
- **When the church values cooperation with the Father, the Son, The Spirit, and One Another great things happen (Acts 2:1-38).**

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