

HOME GROUP QUESTIONS FROM SERMON 11th May 2025

Sermon – John 17 v1-19 – Personal / Group Study and Reflection

“Protected for Glory”

John 17 v1-19 (English Standard Version)

1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, 2 since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4 I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. 6 “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7 Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. 8 For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9 I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. 11 And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. 13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

The following questions relate to the morning 8.30 and 10.30 services on Sunday 11th May 2025 (available on the church website).

Feel free to pick and choose questions / sub-questions as appropriate for your group’s interest, preferred study style and time available. They are simply there to facilitate good discussion / reflection. Do **NOT** feel you need to go through them all.

(1) Opening Icebreaker.

(a) If you were asked, ‘what is your purpose in life’, how would you answer?

(2) Glorifying God. In v1-5, Jesus explains that He has glorified His Father, and in turn is glorified.

(a) How has Jesus glorified His Father? And why does glorifying God and being glorified by the Father matter so much?

(b) In v2-3, Jesus explains that one aspect of His mission was to bring eternal life. We talk about eternal life as our great hope and what keeps us going, but what does eternal life really mean to you and how important is it to you?

(3) Glorifying God. In v10, Jesus makes the amazing statement that He is glorified by his followers, i.e. us.

(a) How can we today glorify Jesus? Think about this in terms of your relationship with God, your walk with God, your witness, your serving, your day-to-day living.

(b) Glorifying the Father was paramount to Jesus. To what extent is glorifying God paramount to you in how you live day-to-day, and your purpose in life?

(c) What could you change in how you live that would make glorifying God your top priority.

(4) Protected by God. Jesus then moves on to praying for protection for his followers so they can glorify Him in how they live. Jesus specifically prays that his followers will be protected from the world whilst at the same time remaining in the world (v14-16).

(a) Jesus is blunt that we will be hated by the world (14). Why does the world hate us? How does it make it you feel? Does it want to make you conform to the world to avoid the opposition or to promote the Word that the world recoils from?

(5) Protected by God. Jesus also prays that his followers will be protected from the evil one (v15).

(a) To what extent do you think about and believe in Satan operating in the world and your life, and being under spiritual attack (Versus just saying things like “oh well, things go wrong at times – that’s just life”)? What examples can you think of?

(b) How do you discern spiritual attack and how do you respond?

(6) Protected by God. Jesus prays for our spiritual protection in several ways. In v11, he prays that we will be “kept in your name” in the same way that Jesus kept the disciples in the Father’s name while He was on earth”.

(a) What do you think this means? Think about people’s names in the Bible (OT and NT) and how they have deep significance rather than just being labels.

(b) How does God’s name protect us? To what extent do you call on the full measure of God’s name?

(7) Protected by God. Another way Jesus prays for our spiritual protection is in v17 where he prays that we will be “sanctified by the truth – your word is truth”.

(a) What do you think this means? In other words, unpack what Jesus means by “sanctified”, “the truth” and “your word”.

(b) How does being “sanctified by the truth” protect us from the world and the evil one.