

“Father, I want Your Love to be in them also”**John 17:13-26 (vv. 24-26)**

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I. Historical and Biblical Context

Jesus continues to pray for His disciples and others who would become followers. This chapter has recorded the longest prayer that Jesus had prayed during His earthly ministry. This prayer is often called the High Priestly Prayer. In this text, Jesus is about to be betrayed, face unjust trials, false accusations, beatings, and crucifixion, and yet, He takes time to commune with His heavenly Father in prayer for Himself, His disciples and future followers. Jesus prayed that work of redemption will continue. He has model all we should do and be as disciples and followers. He has shown how are to exhibit love, be unified, live holy and in total obedience in accordance with the Word of God. Communion with God is essential to every believer. As difficult life is we must prayer. We know and how experience the power of prayer. We have been witnesses of the power of answered prayers in the life of others. We are blessed to look on to Jesus' prayer. As prayer was a regular part of Jesus' life so should be for our life.

II. The Lesson Title: “Father, I want Your Love to be in them also”

As the love between the Father and Son is indescribable and amazing, Jesus prayed for this same love to be in His disciples. This is a natural love but a supernatural love for God is love (1 John 4:7 & 16). God is the epitome of love. It is His divine compassion. God loved so much that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16). Jesus didn't pray that we love on our accord but that the Father would be in us as it is in them. The Word of God states “whoever lives in love lives in God and God in them. To love God and one another is evidence of our rebirth and the redemptive power of God (1 John 5:1-3). As the love

relationship between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit so should it be with believers.

1. **vv. 13-16.**

I am coming to You now, but I say these things while I am still in the world so that they may have the full measure of My joy within them. Jesus' earthy ministry was coming to close His earthy work was just about fully accomplished. This is a restatement of what He had stated in John 17:11. Jesus cared and prayed for His disciples to have fulfillment of joy in their life. Jesus has taught and preached the Word of God so that they will have His joy in them. This joy is not like the world's happenings. This joy is not based on circumstances or situations or feelings but on the Word of God (John 15:11). Jesus had kept the commands of His Father and remained in His love, if we are obedience and love as Jesus has loved, His joy will be completed in us (John 15:10-11; I John 1:4; and 1 Peter 1:8). Jesus knew what was forthcoming for His disciples. He didn't want them to be troubled or feeling hopeless with His departure. His prayer request was that they may have His joy fulfilled in them (John 16:24). This joy that He gives, nothing nor anyone can take away. The world loves its own but when you stand for right and righteousness and live in obedience to the Word of God, the world will hate you (John 15:9). The Word of God lets us know that we shouldn't be surprised when the world hates us (1 John 3:13).

The world (darkness) hated Jesus (Light) because it exposed what and who they were and what they did. This is still true today. The religious leaders were always trying to find a way to get rid of Jesus because He exposed their false teachings and hypocrisy. Folks who do evil hates the Light and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. The world isn't hating on us but on the Jesus that is in us.

Jesus said on one occasion that the world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it, that its deeds are evil (John 7:7). We should just let the Light shine in us so the world can see the good works and glorified our Father in heaven. Jesus has

shown and demonstrated in His living and obedience to the Father that you can be in the world and not of the world. The Word of God has keeping power. Jesus prayed for His disciples to be protected from the evil one and not be taken out of the world. We have been saved and sanctified for the work and purpose of God. God has saved us from the world but not out of the world. We know what we used to do, how we used to live and what we used to say but thanks to be God for His amazing grace that is continually transforming us into what God would have to be.

As we study and apply God's Word to our daily lives, we find ourselves walking in the newness of life in Christ. Jesus said, I have given them Your Word. Jesus was the Word (John 1:1). He spoken only what the Father had given Him to say (John 5:19, John 7:16, John 8:28; John 12:49; and John 14:10). The Word of God is powerful. Jesus taught His disciples both publicly and privately. He had given them what the Father had given them so that they may teach others. Jesus prayed that His disciples would be protected from the evil one – satan, the deceiver, the father of all lies, devil, the accuser of the brethren, and prince of darkness (1 Peter 5:8). Satan has power but he is not all powerful. He is a created being who rebelled against God. He is bound for eternal damnation. He doesn't want to see us loving one another, in fellowship, serving God, on one accord, nor studying the Word of God. This is why it is of the utmost importance that we not hearers only but doers of the Word of God. We are to make sure no one deceives us.

2. **vv. 17-19.**

Jesus requested to the Father that the disciples be sanctified by God's truth for His Word is truth. Sanctification is of God's doing, setting us apart to do a work for Him. Jesus is the Word and the Truth. The Word of God must be heard, understood, and applied in our daily life. Jesus completed the work of the Father had sent Him to do on the earth to include dying on the cross. It is through all that He did and said that the disciples were able to accomplish the work of the Lord. Jesus prayed that as He had

sanctified Himself, that they too may be truly sanctified. Jesus totally submitted and committed Himself to the will and purpose of the Father. He stated that He did not come to do His will but the will of His Father. As believers, our lives should not longer be what we want to do but as the Father will so shall we do. To know what to do and how to live as we should is to know how Jesus lived and what He did.

3. **vv. 20-26.**

We see the shift of Jesus' prayer from Himself and His disciples to those who were to come by the testimonies and preaching of the disciples to include us. As He has prayed for them, He also prayed for us. Jesus interceded on our behalf. He prayed that we may be one as He and the Father are one. Through our unity and oneness, through the demonstration of holy living and real love, the world will know that the Father sent His Son, Jesus. We are to all we can to not cause divisions and strife among ourselves. We are to multipliers and not dividers. We want God to use us to be multipliers of the kingdom of God. When the world see the unity and oneness of the family of God, there are some folks that will be drawn to the Lord. Jesus didn't pray for us to be uniformed but for to be united. We have to be rooted and grounded in the love of God. Through Jesus prayer we see how essential it is for us to have unity. It is not about us but it is so that the world may believe that God the Father sent God the Son. It is so the dying world may know that how loving, compassionate, forgiving, merciful, and gracious this awesome God is. The world may know that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

In the church covenant, "We engage, therefore by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love..." Can we sing together that we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord? We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. And they'll they we are Christians by our love. Jesus spoke in the present tense when He prayed that His desire for us was to be where He is. Praise God that He has gone to prepare a place for us that where He is there we maybe also.