

20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. 24 “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. 26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

John 17 - We get to overhear God. God is not talking to us. We're not talking to him. It's the Father and the Son inside the Godhead having an extended conversation.

**Eternal Life** = Jhn 17:3 “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

**Holiness** - Set apart - sanctified - “Sanctify them.” here is something Jesus Christ was willing to die for

Jhn 17:19 “And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

**Sentness** - Mission - Individuals need to feel like we count.

Jhn 17:18 “As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

**Truth** - Word is Truth -

Jhn 17:17 “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

Truth. Bedrock. To Live by - solid won't let them down, something they can build their lives on, something they can sacrifice for and die for. I want them to have some principles they can be sure of to guide their lives.

**Unity** - oneness - love - Community - Family - vs 21 “Let them be one as we are one.”

These four things are completely intertwined. Jesus will not bring one of these things into your life without all of them. He does not work one of them apart from the other.

20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will **believe in Me through their word;**

In verse 7, Jesus said “Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me ...” They is the apostles, and they believe the teaching that Jesus gave them is not just teaching, but it's revelation. It's authoritative, absolute truth.”

No in verse 20 Jesus says “I pray for those who believe on me through their word.” Their word is the apostles word.

Jesus is saying the church is the body of people who accept the apostolic teaching as divine, what the apostles have written and taught you is revelation right from God's mouth.

The Father gave him words, and he passed the words to the apostles, and those who believe, in the words of the apostles, belong to Jesus.

To receive the Word of God in your life is what the Bible says you're supposed to do with it.

Trust and obey the word of God

21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may **believe that You sent Me.** 22 And the **glory which You gave Me I have given them,**

**Holiness** - Set apart - sanctified - "Sanctify them." here is something Jesus Christ was willing to die for

Sanctified - Holy = To be separated for something, to be set apart for something.

1 Samuel 2:2 says, "There is no one holy like the Lord; there is none besides thee."

Isaiah 40:25 God is saying to his people, "I am the Holy One, to whom will you liken me? To whom will you compare me?"

To see God as holy means to see he is utterly exalted, infinitely transcendent, and infinitely above us.

in the Scripture, whenever somebody gets near the holy God, they immediately become more aware of themselves. To know the holiness of God is to immediately know you are small and flawed and weak.

reality hits you - there is one God and it is not me

Lev 20:26 'And you shall be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine.'

Holiness is at least three things: to be wholly committed to God, to be wholly focused on God, and it's to be wholly renovated by God. Wholly. In entirety.

If an athlete wants to win an Olympic gold medal. What does she do? She sanctifies herself. She sets herself apart. She separates herself from a lot of foods. She separates herself from a lot of activities. She separates herself from a lot of attitudes. None of these foods, none of these activities, none of these attitudes would she say to other people are necessarily wrong.

These things become wrong for her, because she is sanctified. She is a "holy" athlete because she has sanctified herself for this cause.

This is what Jesus did for you - His prize— He sanctified Himself for us - our eternal life - salvation - everything He did was in obedience to the Father for our blessing.

He has committed himself. He has ditched competing concerns and priorities. **To be holy means to be wholly committed to God.** It's a priority thing.

In Luke 9:51, it says Jesus set his face like a flint to go up to Jerusalem and die. He looked at something. He would not take his eyes off of it. **He looks at one thing.** Single Focus - Wholly focused on Jesus

Jesus has said he's sanctified that we might be made sanctified, which means he has separated himself. He has actually put his own interests aside. **He is actually living no longer for himself, Everything he does is for us, to get us and make us great.**

In Exodus 19, God says to the people of Israel, "You saw what I did in Egypt, how I brought you on eagles' wings to myself so you would be my treasured possession, a holy nation, and my own people."

1Pe 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

You are a holy nation. You belong to God. You're God's people. Nation = ethnos **You are a holy ethnic.**

What's the difference between an ethnic group and an organization? An ethnic group is a culture. It's a completely and totally comprehensive way of being. Brazilian vs Bowling

Your ethnicity guides how men and women relate, how you relate to people of other races. It determines economic relationships, how the family works, how children are raised. It determines what you think good music is. It determines your attitude toward work, and even your sense of humor. Having a different ethnicity is a comprehensive difference.

If you're wholly committed to Jesus and you're wholly focused on Jesus, it will change every area of your life. Every area!"

"What does it mean to really be committed to Jesus in my area of work, in my humor, in my child rearing, in my attitude toward the Arts, in my attitude toward other people, toward other races, in my business practices?"

Bit by bit by bit, we will find we are so changed in every area of our lives that we will find, **you're a Christian first, and you're an American second. You're a Christian first**, and you're black or white second. You're a Christian first, and you're labor or management second. You're a Christian first, and you're a member of this family or that family second.

What does it mean to be a holy people? **"There's not an area of your life that Jesus Christ has not looked at and said, 'Mine!' "**

Church is a people group forging a new humanity in Christ - eternal life - weight of glory. The whole point of being a holy people is that we as **Christians have to have every part of our lives changed.**

The way we deal with conflicts, the way we take criticism, the way we handle the stresses of work, the way in which the races get along ... the world is supposed to be looking at us and saying, "How the heck do you do it?" and the conclusion they come to is that "Your God must be a great God?"

The church is not a club. It's a holy nation. You've been called to be a holy people, to be his special treasure. "Mine!" To be a holy people? It means you belong to Jesus.

God says, "You're mine. You're my treasured possession." In Malachi 3, it says when God comes back to judge the world, he will collect his treasure, his jewels, to himself. **That's us!**

Jesus Christ sanctified himself for us "I have decided to put all of my resources ... All that I have and am is living in order to make them gloriously great."

1Co 6:20 For you were bought at a price

Jesus suffered by separated himself from the Father, so we might be separated to the Father. Jesus was cut off, so we could be accepted, adopted, adored. Jesus was completely separated and cast out so we can be brought in. Jesus became sin, when He took on our sin, so we could be made Holy, Righteous and Redeemed.

This is the basis of our family, unity, community, love

that **they may be one just as We are one:**

Jesus will not give you holiness, mission in life, truth, **apart from community**. They all work together. They interpenetrate, they are intertwined, interdependent.

Jesus will not give you wholeness of heart and mission in life and truth to build your life on alone.

Jesus says - "I do this in tandem with other people who I'm also working in. I do not give you wholeness of heart and mission in life unless I give it to you as a group."

In the Lord's Prayer - how does he teach us to pray - Our Father, not my Father

Jesus' prayer is that community is not optional - it is essential - You are going to have to be committed to the same people who are after the same things you're after. The people who are in unity with me, you will be in unity with.

You're going to have to be available for people. You're going to have to be accountable to people. Jesus says - Sorry, but coming to me is the end of your private little world. Family centered on Jesus, results in Holiness, Believe the Truth, Move out on Meaningful Mission

Studying the truth, putting our lives up against it, sharing and talking and learning about faults

If you feel like I've worked so hard at being a Christian and not seen a whole lot of holiness and a whole lot of mission and a whole lot of truth coming into your life, are you in community, family, engaged

Jesus clearly says, "I pray that they may be one," are you lonely. The thing that isolates you is sin. Repent, return, rejoin, rejoice

**and that the world may know that You have sent Me,**

In the community - unity - oneness of many in Christ - there's the possibility of such incredible love and unity that the world will be amazed by it.

Jesus says the love he can create between Christians is of such a nature that it can get past all the bias and misconceptions that people have of Jesus and Christianity. Love amongst the Christians can silence the intellectual arguments of the skeptics.

Jesus says, "If my people are one the way I can make you one, nobody will have any arguments against my deity, my incarnation, my message."

How in the world could the love between Christians be that visible? **Real love is always visible before it is emotional.**

**Visible love is costly** - The early church was characterized not by just love that expressed itself emotionally but love that expressed itself through possessions and things. In Acts 4, the early Christians loved each other so much that when one person in the church had a particular need, other people were willing to sell their land, sell their property, and give it until there was no need left.

The church was known for radical hospitality and generosity. It creates relational investment, relational capital. We naturally choose friends like us in every way, so there is no investment needed, differences require investment, radical commitment.

**Visible love is impartial** - the world says, "Birds of a feather flock together." Relationships are built on chemistry, on affinity, people who look like you, people who have your same interests, people you can have fun with.

In verse 20 ... "I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one ..."

Truth is the basis of Christian unity, and that means extremely diverse people suddenly become brothers and sisters.

Christian unity is based on truth. If you meet somebody else who is different than you in almost every way, but who also says, "Jesus is my Lord and Savior" You may appear and sound like you are from different planets, and yet there is a clear and deep sensation immediately, "This is a brother. This is a sister."

Christian relationships are based on truth, and therefore, they're impartial. The world can see a unity that cuts across all sorts of lines that it sees nowhere else.

**Visible Love is forgiving** - Sea Star or Starfish - regrows arms - central nerve ring intact - whole new star - They're self-regenerating. The mark of Christian love and Christian relationships, different than other kinds of relationships, is they regenerate themselves.

When relationships are broken, there's forgiveness. When relationships are broken, there's reconciliation. It's another one of those non-optional ways of the Lord.

In Matthew 18 Jesus says, "If you don't forgive your brother from the heart, my Father will not forgive you?" Jesus taught us to pray, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors?"

Jesus says, "If they're one, then the world will know you love them." The minute you say about another Christian, "I will not forgive," that minute you're also forcefully denying that God loves you.

A Christian keeps in mind and heart always that, "I was an enemy to God, yet he forgave me. How can I feel superior to this person? I grieved Jesus far more than this person grieved me."

A Christian thinks, "How dare I be a judge, when only God has the wisdom to know what this person who I'm so mad at deserves, and only God has the right to give this person who I'm so mad at what they deserve? What's the matter with me? He's not my judge. He has forgiven me." You can't think that and be bitter.

**Bitterness is atheism.**

**and have loved them as You have loved Me.**

Lastly, you won't be able to love completely until you know you are completely loved. Living knowing you are Loved as much as the Father loves the Son - is the only way for us to develop this kind of unity

**Jhn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:**

If you receive him as Savior, if you make him your Savior and Lord, you're adopted.

**Here it has the audacity to say God's love for his adopted child is no different, it's no less, it's not diminished in any degree, behind his love for his only begotten Son.**

Imagine when Jesus came back from the dead and he came to the right hand of the Father. Imagine the welcome. That is exactly how he regards you. It's common sense to realize you will not be able to love anybody completely until you feel completely loved.

**23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one,**

24 "Father, I desire that they also **whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am**, that they may **behold My glory which You have given Me**; for **You loved Me before the foundation of the world**.

25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but **I have known You**; and **these have known that You sent Me**.

26 And **I have declared to them Your name**, and **will declare it**, that the **love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**"

Eternal Life - quality and quantity - higher order of Life - know by experience real, living, holy, true, God