

Digging Deeper: John 17:1-5

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Day 1

Remember to pray, asking for God's help so you can focus on His Word, without distraction. Use a journal to write down your thoughts and feelings as you pray and study His Word this week. Read John 17:1-5. This entire chapter is a prayer from Jesus. The first part is Him praying to God His father. The second part is Jesus praying for His disciples. And the last part is Jesus praying for us, His believers. In verse 1, Jesus lifts His eyes towards heaven as He begins His prayer. Check out these other passages about "looking up" to God as we pray: Psalms 123:1, Mark 7:34 and Luke 18:13. How do you normally pray?

Day 2

Find a quiet place to settle your mind, body and spirit. Read slowly, don't rush and meditate on each verse, turning to prayer to bring truths and ideas into a conversation with God. Read John 17:1-5. Jesus uses the word glory many times in His prayer to God. Look up the definition of "glory." What does it mean? What are some synonyms for "glory?" Why does Jesus ask God for glory? Why are people normally seeking or in pursuit of glory? What's different here, and what can we learn from Jesus' prayer?

Day 3

Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you dig deeper into His Word this week and what God wants you to learn today from some extra study on Sunday's message. Read John 17:1-5. In verses 2 and 3, Jesus prays about "eternal life." What does He say about it? And, what are we supposed to feel, think and do about it? In other words, how do we get eternal life?

Day 4

Pray for others and ask God how He would have you can come alongside neighbors and friends with grace and love today. Read John 17:1-5. Jesus is fully conscious of why God sent him, the work he was assigned to do and how His work would end. Yet, He is still praying for Himself, His disciples and for us, to the Glory of God. What work has God sent you to do? What might the Holy Spirit be tugging on your heart and your mind, to do for Him, to do for others around you? Is there a behavior you need to change? Is there a hurt from someone you need to forgive? Is there a difficult conversation you need to have with someone? Pray for humility, grace, compassion and God's help, and stop putting it off.

Day 5

Pray for how Jesus wants you to learn from His Word today. Read John 17:1-5. In verse 5, Jesus asks God to bring him into the glory they "shared before the world began." Check out John 1, verses 1 through 5. Also, check out Genesis 1, verses 1 and 2. What do these verses tell us about God, His Son and His Holy Spirit?

Day 6

As you pray, reflect and discuss with Jesus and the Holy Spirit about the past days of the week and how you can apply your thoughts, feelings and answers above to use in your life for His glory. One last time, read John 17:1-5. Which verse(s) speak to you personally during your digging deeper time this week? What do you think God is telling you through His Word and the Holy Spirit? Call up a friend and discuss it with them. Make it real in your life by sharing your convictions with another Jesus follower, perhaps someone from your life group or Bible study group.