

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why did Jesus say, “I pray not for the world?”
2. How are believers sanctified?
3. How is sanctification related to service?
4. Define unity.
5. How does like-mindedness relate to unity?
6. Why is unity of the believers important?
7. With the difference of nationalities, cultures and backgrounds, can unity be achieved? How?

SUMMARY:

Jesus knew the power of prayer and used it. He also knew that the contacts and associations which He had with the disciples, though good, were no guarantee that they were immune to Satan’s designs. Let’s remember that Jesus warned His disciples to watch and pray, lest they enter into temptation. Gehazi had close association with one of the great prophets, Elisha, yet he fell into avarice and greed. Judas associated with Jesus, yet he became an instrument of Satan (John 13:2). Demas lived for a time close to the Apostle Paul, but he “turned back, having loved this present world”. The fact remains that no matter what our associations might be or how well we have been taught in Christian faith, we are unsafe in this world unless we are hedged about with prayer and thereby kept from the evil one.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #7

May 17, 2026

Second Quarter

CHRIST PRAYS FOR HIS FOLLOWERS

LESSON TEXT: *John 17:1-26*

LESSON SETTING: Jesus prays for His followers after the last supper.

TIME: Approximately 33 A.D.

I. PRAYER FOR PRESERVATION. John 17:1-16

- A. Sustaining Providence. 2 Timothy 4:18
- B. The Protecting Father (vs. 11)
- C. In Time of Trouble. Psalm 57:1
- D. Refuge From the Storm. Isaiah 25:4

II. PRAYER FOR SANCTIFICATION. John 17:17-19

- A. The Word Purifies the Life. John 15:3; Ephesians 5:26
- B. Sanctification is Growth. 1 Peter 1:2

III. PRAYER FOR UNIFICATION. John 17:20-26

- A. Harmony Among Leaders. Isaiah 52:8
- B. Contrition Unifies Brethren. Jeremiah 50:4
- C. Exhortation to Unity. 1 Corinthians 1:10
- D. Exhortation to Love, and Our Identity with Jesus Christ. John 13:35; 1 Peter 1:22

GOLDEN TEXT: *I PRAY NOT THAT THOU SHOULDEST TAKE THEM OUT OF THE WORLD, BUT THAT THOU SHOULDEST KEEP THEM FROM THE EVIL ONE.*

John 17:15

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: John 18:1-27

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 50:5-9; Matthew 26:30-75;
Mark 14:32-72; Luke 22:39-62

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ, the Son of God

TOPIC: CHRIST SUFFERS REJECTION

INTRODUCTION:

We could not go to Christ, so He came down from heaven to us. "He is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." From His very birth His life was in danger. The life He lived among His people was a blessing to many and others gnashed their teeth at Him. He was a threat to the religious rulers of the day, in their wicked and sinful hearts and minds.

A friend to everyone, He had no friends in His hour of agonizing prayer. His disciples failed to see the purpose of His life. One disciple betrayed Him. "He is despised and rejected of men: a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised and we esteemed Him not."

He was even forsaken by His Father in heaven for a short time as He paid the ultimate price for the sin of man, the sin that God hates with an absolute hatred. (Matthew 27:45, 46; Proverbs 6:16)

CENTRAL TRUTH: Christ made a complete consecration that we might have a complete salvation.

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE CUP WHICH MY FATHER HATH GIVEN ME, SHALL I NOT DRINK IT?*

John 18:11

David said that in the volume of the Book it is written of Jesus, "Lo, I come to do Thy will O God." He willingly gave His back to the whip and allowed them to smite Him with their hands. They even spat in His face. Jesus endured all and then was crucified so that you and I could live eternally with Him. We can trust Him to help us overcome temptations and sins that so easily beset us, if we yield our life, our will and our all to the guidance of His Holy Spirit.

What pain unspeakable in this great cry we see:

"My God, My God, oh, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

No vengeance in His heart, I hear Him plead anew,

"Dear Father, pray, forgive; they know not what they do!"

Z.H. 89:2-3

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF May 18 – 24

Mon. Israel's Rejection of God. 1 Samuel 8:1-10

Tue. Rejection Prophesied. Psalm 118:14-23

Wed. Christ Foretells Rejection. John 13:19-26

Thu. *Christ Rejected by Judas. John 18:1-4

Fri. *Christ Arrested. John 18:5-14

Sat. *Christ Rejected by Peter. John 18:15-27

Sun. The Rejected Stone. 1 Peter 2:1-10

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