

**John 17:24-26**

*A Prayer For Heavenly Unity, Perfect Love, and Unbroken Fellowship*  
(Pt. 1)

INTRO: Jesus' final petition is for His people to experience heavenly unity, perfect love, and unbroken fellowship with God and Christ! This prayer flows out of John 13:1.

Our Lord and Savior makes this request for three reasons:

**So that 1) Believers Might \_\_\_\_\_ His Perfect Love Forever!**

(John 17:24, 26)



**For Further Reflection/Application:** *Lord help us to be doers of the Word and not just hearers!*

What is the most important thing you heard today? How were you encouraged, challenged, and/or convicted?

What do you want to study further as a result of today's message?

How does one experience the deep, deep love of God in Christ? How does one know if Christ truly loves them (in a saving way)? How will Christ's perfect love be enjoyed by God's people throughout eternity in heaven? How does meditating on the love of God in Christ positively benefit/impact true Christians?

Jesus' final petition is that His people would experience heavenly unity, perfect love, and unbroken fellowship with God and Christ forever and ever amen! What praise songs/hymns highlight these related themes? *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling. The Love of God. And Can it Be.* \_\_\_\_\_.

What major truths have you taken away during this expository study of Jesus' great prayer in John 17?

What is the relationship between longing to be with someone and love? In view of today's sermon, what makes heaven, heavenly? The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever!

Dr. Klink writes, "Jesus also restates His desire for the disciples to share in the love of God, here specifically described as the love "with which you loved Me." As in verse 24, Jesus prays for the disciples to participate in the intra-Trinitarian love, a love so divine in essence and reality and so Christocentric that it can be depicted as either 'love in them' or 'I in them.' To know God is to (v. 26) participate in His love, and to receive His love in His person."

As redeemed sinners and faithful Christian disciples, how should the inward love of God impact our daily lives. John 13:34-35; John 15:12; Colossians 3:12-14. 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. 1 Peter 1:21-22.

The unity of the church is not an end in and of itself. How is true (Christian) unity related to biblical evangelism? A very divided world needs a spiritually united witness. Unity for the sake of the Gospel. This unity reflects the divine unity of the Father and Son (John 17:21-22) and is providentially used to bring the lost to faith in Christ (John 17:21, 23).

How is the unity petition in John 17:20-23 similar to and how is it different from John 17:24-26?

#### John 17:20-23 Sermon Outline

- 1) The Goal(s) of Jesus' Unity Petition. *(John 17:21-23)*
  
- 2) The Recipients of Jesus' Unity Petition *(John 17:20; 17:9-10)*
  
- 3) The Result(s) of Jesus' Unity Petition *(John 17:22c-23)*

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