

## 3-29-26 His Hour: Welcome into the Hour

### Week 4

**Text: John 17:1–26**

**Topics:** Trinity, Relationship, Unity, Love, Suffering, Glorification, Salvation, Worship

**Big Idea of the Message:** Jesus's "hour" is our salvation.

**Application Point:** Through the salvation procured by Jesus Christ, we are invited into the loving communion of the Triune God.

Introduction: We're Listening in on Holy Ground

**John 17** is not Jesus preaching. It's Jesus praying. The disciples are quiet. The cross is hours away. And Jesus opens His heart to the Father. This isn't the Lord's Prayer we recite. This is the Lord praying.

If you've ever wondered: what Jesus wants for you, what salvation brings you into, or what God is like at His core. **John 17** answers all of it.

#### I. "Father, the Hour Has Come" - Salvation Is the Point of History

- **Read John 17:1.**
- No more "not yet." No more anticipation.
- **"Father, the hour has come."**
- Jesus's hour is not just about suffering. It's about saving.
- This is the moment sin is dealt with, death is confronted and eternity is opened.
- The cross is not a detour in God's plan. It is the destination.
- Everything in Scripture has been moving toward this hour.
- When Jesus says, **"It is finished,"** salvation is secured, not started.

Your salvation is not based on:

- Your consistency
- Your performance
- Your emotional state

It is anchored in Christ's finished work.

#### II. Salvation Welcomes Us into the Life of God

- **Read verses 2-3.**
- Jesus defines eternal life: **"That they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."**

- Eternal life isn't just Heaven Later. Eternal life is relationship now.
- God didn't save you just to keep you out of hell. He saved you to bring you into His life.
- God has always existed as: Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Perfect unity. Perfect love. Perfect fellowship.
- God didn't create us because He was lonely. He created us because love overflows.
- As Mere Christianity beautifully puts it, God's life is like a dance of love - dynamic, joyful, and shared.
- Salvation is God inviting you onto the dance floor.

### **III. Glory Comes Through Obedience - Even When It Hurts**

- **Read 4-5.**
- Jesus says: **"I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do."**
- Glory doesn't prevent suffering. Glory often passes through it.
- Jesus is about to be mocked, beaten and crucified and He calls it glory!
- Obedience leads to Glory. Humility leads to Exaltation. Death leads to Life.
- The Father glorifies the Son. The Son glorifies the Father.
- And astonishingly - we are brought into that exchange.

#### **Application:**

Obedience is not easy. Sometimes it costs reputation. Sometimes it costs comfort. But no act of obedience is ever wasted.

### **IV. Jesus Holds the Keys—And Offers Salvation Freely**

- **Read verses 6-19.**
- Jesus says the Father gave Him authority **"over all flesh."**
- That means, salvation is not earned, salvation is not negotiated, salvation is given.
- Jesus didn't make salvation possible. He made it certain.
- Everyone the Father gives to the Son is kept. Not one is lost.
- Your security doesn't rest in your grip on God... but in His grip on you.

#### **Application:**

If you are in Christ: you are held, you are kept, and you are secure. This produces worship, not laziness.

### **V. Saved People Are Drawn into Unity and Love (vv. 20–26)**

- **Read verses 20-26.**

- Jesus prays not just for the disciples... but for us.
- **“That they may all be one...”** Unity is not uniformity. It is shared life in Christ.
- We don’t create unity. We protect it.
- The world will not believe because we argue better, but because we love differently.

### **Application:**

#### **1. When you feel like you’re NOT enough, stop grading yourself**

- Some of us wake up already behind. Not spiritual enough. Not consistent enough. Not strong enough.
- The next time that thought hits—don’t spiral. Just say: Maybe I’m not enough... but Jesus already is.”
- For the struggling Christian: You don’t need a reset, maybe you need to rest.
- For the not-yet Christian: What if God ISN’T waiting for you to fix yourself... but inviting you as you are?
- Truth: You don’t clean yourself up to come to God... you come to God and He cleans you up.

#### **2. Avoid treating God like an emergency contact**

- Be honest, too many people only talk to God when something goes wrong.
- Flat tire = “God help me.” Bad news = “God where are You?”
- Talk to God in normal moments: in the car, doing dishes, walking into work, not fancy. Not polished. Just real.
- For the struggling Christian: You don’t need better prayers, you need honest ones.
- For the not-yet Christian: Try this: “God, if You’re real... show me.” That’s a dangerous prayer, in the best way.

#### **3. Do the right thing EVEN when it costs you**

- You already know what the right thing is in that situation.
- You just don’t like the price. Apologizing first. Telling the truth. Walking away from something unhealthy. Forgiving someone who doesn’t deserve it.
- Do one hard, right thing this week that you’ve been avoiding.
- For the struggling Christian: Obedience isn’t about perfection, it’s about direction.
- For the not-yet Christian: What if the resistance you feel isn’t random... but God nudging you?

#### **4. When anxiety hits - remind yourself, you’re not holding everything together**

- Life feels heavy because you think it's all on you. Your future. Your family. Your failures.
- When anxiety spikes, pause and say: "I'm not in control... and maybe that's a good thing."
- For the struggling Christian: God's grip on you is stronger than your grip on Him.
- For the not-yet Christian: What if letting go isn't losing control... but finding peace?

#### **5. Don't burn bridges over small fires**

- Most division doesn't come from huge issues.
- It's: tone, misunderstandings, pride, "I'm not texting first" energy
- Be the one who: sends the message, clears the tension, chooses peace over being right
- For the struggling Christian: Maturity looks like going first.
- For the not-yet Christian: You don't need a Bible verse to know relationships matter.... so fight for them.

#### **6. Love in a way that makes people want to ask questions**

- We don't need to preach at people all the time. But how we treat them? That speaks loudly.
- This week: be patient when it's inconvenient, be kind when it's undeserved, show up when it's not expected.
- For the struggling Christian: You may feel spiritually dry, but you can still love deeply.
- For the not-yet Christian: If this is real, it should show up in how people live, so watch closely.

#### **7. Stop standing outside something you've been invited into**

- Some of you believe... but you're still distant. Others are curious... but hesitant.
- Take one step closer: Pray for the first time in a real way. Open a Bible (start in John). Ask real questions instead of avoiding them.
- For the struggling Christian: You don't have to feel close to come close.
- For the not-yet Christian: At some point, you have to stop observing and decide.

#### **8. Bring YOUR mess - don't hide it**

- Too many people think: "I'll deal with this first... then I'll come to God."
- That's backwards.
- Whatever you're carrying right now: guilt, shame, addiction and doubt Bring it as is.
- For the struggling Christian: God isn't surprised by what you're hiding.

- For the not-yet Christian: You don't disqualify yourself... you just delay yourself.

### **9. Live like Jesus matters - because HE does**

- If this is true... it changes everything.
- Not just Sundays. Everything.
- Start your day with one question: "What would it look like to live today like God is real and present?"
- Then actually try it.
- For the struggling Christian: Faith grows in small, daily decisions - not big emotional moments.
- For the not-yet Christian: If there's even a chance this is true... it's worth exploring seriously.

Church unity is not optional. It is evangelistic. How we love one another tells the world:

- What God is like
- What salvation does
- Whether the Gospel is real

Jesus's hour:

- brought suffering... so we could have salvation
- revealed glory... so we could share it
- opened eternity... so we could enter it

You are not saved by a religion. You are saved into a relationship. You are not merely forgiven. You are welcomed.

### **Invitation:**

Some of you have admired Jesus from a distance. Others believe facts but lack assurance.

Some have been faithful, but weary. Hear this clearly: **His hour was for you.**

The door is open. Not because you earned it. Not because you figured it out. Because Jesus did.

The cross opened the door. The resurrection sealed the promise. The prayer of Jesus still stands. Come to Christ. Rest in His work.

Enter the love that existed before time began. And when you do... you don't just receive salvation. You step into the very life of God.

### **Prayer**