



CIBC Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

This guide is designed to help guide life group discussions of this week's sermon at Cayman Islands Baptist Church. For more information on life groups and other discipleship opportunities at CIBC, please visit www.cibaptist.ky.



Get the Picture

-Title: "He Prays For Us"

-Series/Text: Prayer: The Hour That Changes The World (John 17:20-26)

-Date: Jan. 3, 2021

-Speaker: Pastor Steve

-Main Idea: We learn from Christ's prayer for us how to pray for others.



Group Discussion

a) Connect

- 1) **Commit:** Before you begin, agree as a group that you will commit to having an honest discussion about this text without casting any judgment or sharing any unsolicited advice.
- 2) **Read:** Read **Psalm 139:23-24** out loud before you pray to begin the discussion.
- 3) **Pray:** Pray over the group and ask the Lord to "Search your heart" and reveal idols that are keeping you from receiving truth.

b) Engage

- 1) **Read:** Read John 17 and try to form a broad outline of the chapter.
- 2) **Discuss:** Obviously, unity is a prominent theme in this portion of Christ's prayer. Make a quick list of the ways in which verses 21-23 speak of: The unity of the church and Jesus' unity with the Father.
- 3) **Discuss:** What effect does Christian unity have on the watching world?
- 4) **Discuss:** Have you experienced or witnessed the kind of transformed community that testifies to the world about the validity of Jesus' work and claims? If so, what were some of the features of such a community? If not, what might you imagine such community to look like? What obstacles inhibit this kind of unity?
- 5) **Discuss:** In what ways is our church community living up to this high calling for life together? In what ways are we not?
- 6) **Discuss:** Can you think of ways that you could personally contribute to greater unity in our church life?

c) Apply

- 1) **Consider:** Why is prayer important to Jesus? Why should prayer be important to us?

d) Pray

- 1) **Silent Prayer:** Enter into a time of silence to allow God to speak to you in response to everything you discussed today. Listen for areas where He may be telling you He wants you to step out in obedience.
- 2) **Group Prayer:** After a time of silence, close out the study with a group prayer for God's help to grow in your prayer life this year.



Going Deeper

- 1) Jesus prays for future believers, their unity of faith, that the gospel would go forth, and the kingdom of God would advance. What is God calling you to this year in these areas?