

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

5.28.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Jesus Prays for Believers

John 17: 6 – 21

Many Christians either withdraw from the world, or they live according to the world, and Christ wants neither response from His believers. Christ wants us to remain faithful to God the Father, and God the Father wants us to live for Christ. We are not to adopt the perspectives of the world or allow such to control our moral values, but we are to live according to the characteristics of God. We must allow our obedience in God's word to determine our understanding of right and wrong, so that even though we are living in this world, we are not a part of this world.

John 15: 19,....if you were of the world, the world would love you as its own, but because you are not of this world, because I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you....

As believers, we are no longer of the world, we are no longer ruled by sin, and we are no longer bound by the principalities of this world. Daily, as we are changed into the image of Christ, our desires of the world are to become less and less as our faith grows, and as we mature in Christ. Therefore, we are physically present in the world, but we must not become a part of the world's sinful values. Living in this world is necessary if we are to be a shining light to those who are living in spiritual darkness.

1 Peter 2: 9 – 10,....ye are a chosen generation....ye should show forth the praise of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light....in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God, which had not obtained mercy....abstain from fleshly lusts....

As Christians, we have acknowledged our place in Gods eternal plan. We have been set apart for a particular purpose, and that is to proclaim to the world the saving grace of Jesus Christ. For this reason, we are taught through the word of God just how valuable every member in the body of Christ has become. All believers have been positioned precisely in the place of Gods choosing, so that we might shine forth his marvelous light, and spread the good news of his unchangeable love to all who will believe.

John 17: 6 – 11,....I have manifested thy name unto....men....thine they were....thou gavest them me....they have kept thy word....I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me....they have received them....I pray for them, I pray not for the world, but for them which thou have given me, for they are thine....thine are mine....I am glorified in them....I am no more in the world....these are in the world....keep....those whom thou hast given me....

First of all, Christ prayed that God would glorify him, so that by him the Father would be glorified. Secondly, Christ prayed for his disciples, so that the nature of the Father would be revealed unto them through his word. It is only through obedience and understanding that God can be glorified.

Christ manifested the glory and the characteristics of God to humanity, whom he called, and chose, even before the foundation of the world. Although mankind makes many mistakes in their walk with God, it is Christ earnest desire that God the Father would keep them, for they were bought with a price by the precious blood of Christ.

Ephesians 14: 6,....according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world....

1 Corinthians 6: 20,....for ye are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are Gods....

God created us, he made a way of redemption for us through faith believing in his Son Jesus Christ, therefore, he will justify us through our obedience to his word, and he will continually sanctify us, and one day when we go to live with him eternally, we will be glorified. This means that we should not think of ourselves as our own, to follow after our own selfish desires, because we belong wholly unto the Lord. Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 6: 19,.... know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you....

Three things Christ expressed, concerning mankind, to the Father, as he prayed. I have manifested thy name unto mankind, and they have kept thy word. I have given unto them your words, and they received them. I pray for them, for they are thine. These three things set the example for our walk as believers on this earth, but first we must proclaim God to all mankind.

Colossians 1: 25 – 29,.... I am made a minister....to fulfill the word of God....whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man....whereunto I also labour....

Next, we are to profess Gods word through our own obedience in his word.

Romans 16: 25 – 27,.... now to him that is of power, to stablish you according to my gospel, the preaching of Jesus Christ....made manifest....by the scriptures of the prophets....according to....the everlasting God....be glory through Jesus Christ....

Lastly, we are to pray for all mankind, because God created man, and all of humanity belongs to him.

1 Timothy 2: 1 – 4,.... I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men....for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God....who will have all men to be saved....

John 12: 12 – 17,....while I was with them in the world, I kept them....and none of them is lost....that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves....I have given them thy word....I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from evil....sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth....

Christ desire for us is that we might experience the same joy that he is experiencing while he is in the presence of the Father. We have been given Gods word, we have accepted his word, we teach and preach the word of God, and the sinfulness of the world hates the word of God because it reveals the ugly truth concerning the lustful desires of self-righteous, so therefore, Satan will use this sinful worldliness to try and destroy our credibility in God through temptation, but be not afraid, dismayed, or discouraged, God will protect us.

Isaiah 41: 10,....fear thou not, for I am with thee, be not dismayed, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of thy righteousness....

Our life as believers is very challenging. Now, God does not promise to take believers out of persecution or hardship, but he does assure us that he will be right there with us in our time of need and give unto us the promise that whatever it is that we are experiencing, it is all part of our preparation for the greater things that he has in store for us. Christ prayed not that we would be removed from persecutions and hardships, but that God would give us strength to endure. The only way that we can reach others with the truth of the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ, is to demonstrate the truth through our own lives.

John 17: 18 – 21,....thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world....for their sakes....they....might be sanctified through the truth....pray I....for their....which shall believe on me through thine word....that they all may be one....that they also may be one in us....

Believers are to take the message of salvation to all the world. To do this, not only must our faith grow so that we might become spiritually mature in the Lord, but we must also become unified as one in the body of Christ. Gods desire is that we would be united as one in him, and in the Son. There is no closer unity than that which exists between God and His Son, and this is an example unto us, so that our unity in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and with one another in the body of Christ, would be one in the same.

Matthew 22: 36 – 39,....master, which is the greatest commandment in the law?....thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind....thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself....

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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