

John 17:6-9 The Name of God & the People of God

Sermon Discipleship tool

Listen to the John 17:6-9 sermon [HERE](#) before time with your small group/ those you disciple.

“To enjoy & follow Jesus in a way that others will learn to enjoy & follow Jesus, too.”
The C.A.L.L. method will be the outline for our discipleship model:

Celebrate: Where has Jesus been working in your life? How Jesus has answered prayer? What are areas where Jesus has blessed you and through you blessed others?

Accountability: Where are you responding to God's grace by walking in God's ways, practicing obedience to God's word as a reflection of your love for Jesus? Is there anything specific you are trying to align with God's design for your life and loves as an obedience step from last week?

Learn it: (Summary of sermon below)

John 17:6-9; 11b-12

“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.... Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.”

What does this passage teach us about our triune God?

What does this passage teach us about our need, the need of humanity?

Where do we look for these needs to be met outside of God- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? This is to ask, whose names do we bear and whose word do we keep, and how is that working for us?

How does the context and the larger prayer, the larger revelation of God's name in Scripture, and the larger picture of the Gospel of Jesus where we see Jesus manifesting the name help us see God's grace and mercy?

How does this passage teach us about God's faithfulness to keep His promises and the purposes He has for His people?

(see below for exposition and Biblical explanation)

Live It: What is application for your life and leadership? What are obedience steps?

- 1- Where do you need to repent from embracing names of our world in looking for things only the name of Jesus can provide? Be specific.
- 2- Where do you need to embrace the character of Jesus more in your life and leadership?
- 3- How can you more faithfully celebrate your union with Christ, bearing His name as a Christian, through keeping the word of Christ for kingdom fruitfulness in your life- in your key relationships, at home, in school, work, with friend groups, social groups...

- 4- How can you participate in God making His name great among the nations by serving with or supporting an FPC local or global ministry partner?

Summary of the Sermon

The name of the Lord manifest in the person and work of Jesus provides all our hearts seek- keeping us safe and secure so we can keep His word and bear fruit for His Name- distinct from the world yet deployed to bless the world in the name of Jesus.

1. The Name of God (6-8; 11b-12)

Larger context of the prayer- “Kept” is a priestly term- consider **Numbers 6:24-** The Lord bless you and keep you...” To keep is to Guard. Secure- in a world ravaged by storms, the name of God secures as a strong tower, refuge, ever present help in times of trouble. But What’s “the name”?

Larger context of Scripture we see the name of God is **Personal. Relational. Covenantal.**

Covenant name revealed to Moses- **read Exodus 3:13-15** The Lord is the Great “I AM”- “the same yesterday, today, and forever” (**Hebrews 13:8**) The name of the Lord is personal- not an office or title. The name of the Lord is relational- “The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob...”

Jesus “manifest,” or revealed, the name of the Father in the larger context of the gospel of John- Jesus makes absolute “I AM” statements such as **John 8:58**. Jesus makes seven metaphorical claims as the Great “I AM,” fulfilling not only the ancient prophecies of Scripture but also the hunger of the human heart. The seven “I Am” statements unite John’s gospel and illustrate that the same name that provided and protected Israel through Moses, leading them to the promised land, is the name of Jesus offered through His work and His sovereign grace.

Disciples of Jesus are kept secure by the name of Jesus so we can keep His Word. The disciples kept the word of God as the 4th soil in Jesus’ parable, not perfectly but productively. In storms they were afraid. In crisis they crumbled. In scarcity they panicked. In uncertainty they were accusatory... but God’s grace in Christ kept them so they could repent and return to him, shaped by His love so the soil of their souls could receive God’s implanted word (**James 1:21-25**).

Christians have a name that keeps us! So we can keep His word, produce kingdom fruit, and proclaim His name in our life, with our lips, in our labor, and through our love.

2. The People of God (9)

Christians are distinct from the world to preserve our potency, being effective in our deployment for the world.

God’s mission is to make His name great: read **Malachi 1:11; Philippians 2:8-11**

God has a people for His mission. As God chose Abraham to bless him and through him to bless the nations (**Genesis 12:1-3**) and gave His people the Promise Land to bless nations (**Deuteronomy 6:6-8**), so too disciples who are united with Christ bear the name of Christ and live for the glory of the name of Jesus by loving neighbors, neighborhoods, and the nations.