

John 17a

1 Jesus knew He was approaching the cross. It was in obedience to the death that Jesus would glorify God and therefore be glorified. Great men win others over in their death, but never was that so true as in the death of Jesus. The centurion could not help but say, "Surely this was the Son of God." That glory drew men to Him then and continues to do so to this day. He was glorified in that it was a completion of the work the Father had given Him. 12:27-28; 13:31-32

2-3 All authority is given to Jesus by the Father. He sits at His right hand. Matthew 28:18 God gives people to the Son. The Son gives them knowledge of the Father. That is eternal life. It sounds strange to hear Jesus use His own name in a prayer, but remember what it sounds like in Aramaic. Eternal life is knowing the Salvation of God, Messiah, that God has sent. 11:25-26; Jeremiah 9:23-24

4 –5 The cross was Jesus' route back home. It was His road back to the place from which He had come, and to the glory He had left behind to show us the Father's love. Hebrews 1:3

6 Jesus' revealed the name or character of God (Psalm 9:10) in everything He did and said. Those whom God had given to Jesus, heard and obeyed the word, the revelation of God. Isaiah 52:6 Isaiah was declaring the day when we would see the true character of God as the Messiah revealed Him to us. 14:9

7-8 If the disciples received the truth of who Jesus is, then He can work through them though He is not physically present. If we will just accept His words and the truth of who He is, the work that God can do through us is unlimited. 16:30

9 –10 Jesus prays specifically for believers because they belong to God as His inheritance. Jesus says that He and the Father co-own all things, referring to these believers. The believers glorify Jesus. How did the Son glorify the Father? Obedience! When we walk in the Spirit we bring glory to the Son, just as He brought glory to the Father. Philippians 1:20

11-13 Jesus prays for our protection as He leaves us behind in the world so that we might be united. He left us in the Father's hands, or better yet, in the Father's name. That means in His character. There we will find His joy is ours. We will not drift away when we are kept by the power of His name. Jesus didn't pray for us to find an escape, but a place of safety in the world.

14 The world hates the truth of the Word. It convicts and exposes. If we have favor with the systems of man, we are probably compromising the message.

15 We are not called to hide in monasteries, but to live out the life of Christ in the world that hates us. People leave this city because of the worldliness here, but that is exactly where we can make the most difference. Just because you live around it does not mean you must be part of it or accepted by it. What we need is this protection that Jesus prayed for, protection from the Evil One.
2Thess 3:3

16 – 17 We are not under the dominion of the Prince of this world. We were freed from His tyranny. Hagiazein (sanctify) means not only to set apart for some special office and task, it also means to equip a man with the qualities of mind and heart and character which are necessary for that task.—Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT) The truth of the word equips us through transformation. 8:32

18 This is a call to every Christian. Christ went into the world to reveal the Father. We go into the world to reveal the Son. Just as Jesus lived in obedience, humbling Himself, doing nothing but what the Father showed Him, so we are to go into the world obedient to Him. Just as Jesus depended on the Father, so we are to depend on the Son. Without Him, we can do nothing. We are sent to win a few that will win others. Consider that Jesus only had the 120 followers that were willing to do as He said and wait in Jerusalem. The number we reach is not so important as the Word with which we reach them. 20:21; 2Corinthians 5:20

19 If we want sincere followers, we must be sincere. Jesus said the disciple is not greater than his master. You can expect no more of those you reach than you expect from yourself. Jesus was all out surrendered to the Father that we might be all out for Him. He completely set Himself apart for service that nothing might stand in our way. Titus 2:14