



2. Joy and Unity

This discussion guide includes preparation BEFORE the group and some guidance DURING the group meeting. Preparation before the group will help you, your leader, and your group to engage and respond to the living and active Word of God.

PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS

The aim of this preparation is to encourage good & prayerful observation of the text of God's word and the joyful experience of discovering its truth.

Pray and Read John 17.1-26

What are some lightbulb moments? Did anything stand out to you or was particularly challenging?

What questions do you have? Was there anything that you didn't understand?

How does the passage point us to the good news about Jesus? How does it help us to understand who Jesus is or what he came to do?

What are some ways that you could apply the passage to your life?

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Read John 17.1-5

What is the work God gave Jesus?

What is the comfort in verse 5?

How does this comfort and challenge us as we follow Jesus?

Read John 17.6-10 and 25-26

How has Jesus revealed the Father?

What is the reason Jesus revealed the Father?

How can we keep growing in accepting and believing the words of Jesus?

Read John 17.11-14

What do you think Jesus means when he says, “the full measure of my Joy?”

Why does the world hate God’s people? (c.f. 15.18-27)

How does “joy” help us to respond to the world?

Read John 17.15-24

(sanctify just means ‘set apart for special use’ or ‘made holy’)

How does Jesus sanctify himself and us?

How does believing in Jesus give us unity?

How can we develop strong unity in our churches? (Hint: use information from the whole section we’re looking at today)

Pray in response to what you have learned today and ask the Father for all that you need