

1. **Pray:** ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word
2. **Think:** the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word
3. **Begin:** using only your Bible, answer the questions without other outside sources

## Lesson Twenty Four—The Gospel of John Chapter 17:1–5

March 18, 2009

Note to non-believers: If you do not pray, try to answer the questions regarding your prayer life by substituting “think” instead of “pray.”

1. John 17:1 begins with “After Jesus said this.” To what is “this” referring?
  - a) For whom is Jesus praying in John 17:1–5?
    - b) Why do you **think** He is praying at this time?
    - c) Under what circumstances do you find that you pray most often?
  - a) To whom does Jesus pray? Why?
    - b) Throughout John 17:1–5, how does Jesus acknowledge His submission to the Father?

- c) How do you acknowledge your submission to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit when you pray?
- 
- 4. a) According to John 17:1, why does Jesus ask the Father to glorify Him?
  
  - b) In His prayer, what way has Jesus brought glory to the Father?
  
  - c) Identify the different ways Jesus states His purpose on earth in John 17:1–5?
  
  - d) How consistent and thorough are you in praying through the purposes that God has given you? Share strategies you have learned with your group.
- 
- 5. a) Who is Jesus given authority over according to 17:2?
  
  - b) What great blessing does this authority lead to?
  
  - c) Who selects those that might receive eternal life?
  
  - d) What does a person have to do to receive eternal life? Use John 3:16, 5:24 and Romans 10:9 to back up your answer. Write down other references that support your answer.

6. a) Write the definition of the word “know” from the dictionary.
- b) What do you find is amazing and exciting about the thought of knowing God the Father and Jesus?
- c) Why do you **think** Jesus’ definition of eternal life included knowing the only true God **and** Jesus Christ, sent by God, according to John 17:3?
7. a) What does Jesus’ detailed request in John 17:5 reveal about Jesus’ nature and the relationship He has with the Father? (John 1:1 may give you further insight).
- b) What do your own requests reveal about your nature and relationship with the Father?

**Going deeper:**

8. a) Do you believe that submission to Jesus’ authority leads to blessing? Do you find that you rebel against Jesus’ authority or the authority Jesus has placed over you? Pray through the dichotomy of your call to total submission and your rebelliousness and consider asking your group to uphold you in accountability.

b) Do you have eternal life?

- If yes, write in three sentences or less the main way your life is changed today because of it. Consider how you would share this with those you encounter who do not know of eternal life.
  
- If no, do you desire it? Why or why not? If you do desire it, can you identify what is holding you back from commitment to belief?