

Series: The Prayer of Jesus; Sermon: **Real Christian Unity**

Delivered by: **Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: November 10, 2019

Bible text explored: John 17:20-23

²⁰“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. [ESV]

Review and application:

1. Why (v. 20) does Jesus now broaden his prayer to those who have not yet believed? (See *John 10:16*.)
Why could he confidently expect others to believe in him?
(See *John 17:18*.)
2. How (in vv. 21-23) does Jesus repeatedly describe the nature of the unity he desires among his disciples?
After what existing unity is that of his disciples to be modeled?
3. Can we fully comprehend either the Trinity or the mystical spiritual basis for this unity?
But is this an existing unity we can apprehend and seek to reflect?
(See *Eph. 4:3*.)
4. Why would a drive for organizational uniformity fall short as an answer to Jesus' prayer?
5. What (v. 20) is the “their word” that Jesus expects from his disciples to maintain their unity? (See *Acts 4:31* and *Eph. 4:15*.)
How will failing to emphasize primary gospel truths undermine this unity?
How will making secondary personal preferences of primary importance erode this unity?
6. How (v. 22) was “the glory” passed on to us from Jesus?
(See *John 1:14; 15:26-27* and *Eph. 1:12*.)
How is this glory tarnished by self-assertion, rivalry, jealousy, or bitterness?
What is the fruit of the Spirit that displays this glory? (See *Gal. 5:22-23*.)
7. What (v. 23) will be the effect on the world when it observes such complete unity among his followers?