

# What Matters to Jesus

John 17.1-26

February 7, 2021

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## Introduction:

- What matters to you? What are your priorities?
- Chapter 17 is referred to, often, as the High Priestly Prayer

## Explanation of the Text:

From the text we can infer that Jesus was concerned that...

1. He would be glorified - vs. 1-5
  - glory, glorify, glorified - 5x's in the first 5 verses; c.f. 1.14 --
  - We read of Jesus being glorified at the wedding at Cana in context of the disciples putting their faith in him, and again at the Transfiguration, as attested to by Peter
    - 2Peter 1.16-17
  - Jesus was concerned that the Father would glorify him; how can we glorify God?
    - celebrate Him
    - by loving Him and each other
    - honour and obey Him
    - tell others about Him
2. The disciples would be sanctified - vs 16-19
  - to be holy means to be set apart; distinguished from the ordinary; we might even use terms like sacred and secular
  - what is our purpose?
    - to know and love God and make God known - vs. 24-26
    - Jesus entrusted the disciples to continue his mission
    - that commission has been passed down through the ages, from generation to generation - we are still being sent
  - revival begins with prayer

3. The Church would be unified - vs. 20-23
  - a. Jesus prays for all that will believe
  - b. Ephesians 4.1 ff.
    - i. Psalm 133
  - c. Unity comes when we are committed to the same God, the same mission, the same heart. Then we be of the same mind, the mind of Christ.

## Conclusion:

- This is the longest recorded prayer of Jesus Christ
- in it he prays for himself, his disciple, and his Church
- What matters to Jesus is that
  - he would be glorified
  - his disciples, sanctified - and
  - his Church, unified
- Jesus appeals to the Father to be glorified, and the Father did glorify the Son
- Jesus' followers can glorify God by...
  - celebrating God
  - loving one another
  - living lives that honour God, and by
  - responding to the commission of God faithfully.

Amen.