

## John 17:18-26

**John 17:18-19** *“(18) As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. (19) And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.”*

A. As God the Father sent Christ into the world (**John 5:30** and **John 12:49**), Jesus is sending the disciples into the world (**John 20:21**).

1. As Jesus came into the world teaching the lost (**Matthew 4:12-17** and **Matthew 9:35**), the disciples were given the same task (**Mark 16:15-20**, **Luke 24:44-49**, **John 15:16**, and **II Corinthians 4:3-5**).

2. Taking the word of God into the world is a dangerous work (**Matthew 23:34** and **Acts 5:40-42**).

3. Yet, just as Jesus was not alone (**John 8:29**), the disciples will not be alone (**Matthew 28:18-20** and **John 14:26**; cf. **Matthew 10:16-20**).

B. Jesus sanctified Himself for the sake of the disciples (**Hebrews 2:9-11**).

1. Think about this, how much did Jesus do for His own benefit (**Matthew 20:28**, **II Corinthians 8:9**, and **Philippians 2:4-8**)?

2. As we discussed in this chapter, it is the truth that sanctifies [makes holy] (**John 17:17**).

**John 17:20-23** *“(20) Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; (21) That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. (22) And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: (23) I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.”*

A. Jesus wasn't just concerned about the twelve, but also about those who would come to Him through their teaching of the truth (**Acts 2:36-41**).

1. As the word of God spreads, more become disciples (**Acts 6:7** and **Colossians 1:6**).

2. Even when persecution occurred, the word of God could not be bound (**Acts 8:1-4** and **II Timothy 2:9**).

B. We can see again, as we did earlier in this chapter (**John 17:11**), that Jesus wants to see unity among His followers (**I Corinthians 10:17**).

1. Brethren should work hard at avoiding division (cf. **Genesis 13:8**).

2. Jesus wants to see the unity in us that exists with He and His Father (**John 10:30**, **John 14:9-11**, and **I John 5:7**).

C. Unity amongst brethren brings glory to the Lord (**Romans 15:5-6**).

1. We're supposed to live our lives as an example for others to follow (**Matthew 5:14-16**, **I Timothy 4:12**, and **Titus 2:7-8**).

2. When we act like brethren, the world gets to learn a lesson (**John 13:34-35**).

**John 17:24-26** *“(24) Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. (25) O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. (26) And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.”*

A. Jesus desired that the disciples end up with Him (**Matthew 25:31-34**, **John 12:26**, **John 14:1-3**, and **II Corinthians 5:8-10**).

1. Jesus requested that the disciples He had have the opportunity to see Him in His glory, which we shall all see in eternity (**I John 3:1-3**).
2. As we should realize because Jesus is deity (**John 1:1-5**, **Romans 9:1-5**, and **Hebrews 1:8-10**) and He is eternal (**Isaiah 9:6-7**), His relationship with the Father predates this world (**I Peter 1:17-20**).

B. Jesus declared the Father unto the twelve (**John 17:6**).

1. Jesus had worked to establish the same love with the disciples that He and the Father have (**John 15:9-10**).
2. Jesus wants the love of His Father to be bestowed upon us (**John 16:27** and **Ephesians 6:23**).