



Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings

April 2018

Father, thank you for them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, the now glorified one who was once humbled. Father, thank you for another opportunity to hold forth the greatness of your Word. Thank you for loving us and giving us a chance to love you and your son by keeping your Word. Thank you for what you have already done for us in Christ. I thank you for each born again believer in the body of Christ. Amen

In the March article, we learned that God loved us before the foundation of world. We reviewed the record where Christ is the seed of woman prophesized in Genesis 3:15. The Word of God challenges us to demonstrate this power of God by imitating God and doing the works that Jesus Christ did. We are to walk in the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation.

In this month's teaching, we will read in John 17 Jesus Christ's prayer of love to his Father for his disciples and those that should believe.

In John 17, Jesus Christ prayed after he and his disciples left the last supper. The courage and love of Jesus Christ for his disciples and his heavenly Father is clearly indicated throughout this prayer. This prayer emphasizes the fact that Jesus Christ had given his disciples God's Word, which empowered them to walk with God as he did. John 17:1-3:

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

The word "glorify" is the Greek word *doxazo*. When this word appears in the Bible and is associated with Christ, "glorify (*doxazo*)" means that Christ's innate glory is made manifest and brought to light.

Life eternal is to know the only true God and His son Jesus Christ, whom God had sent. The true God wants us to know He has sent His only begotten son Jesus Christ and that we have eternal life through him! 1 John 5:13:

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Those us who believed “on the name of the Son of God” know, without any doubt, we have eternal life! How tremendous it is to live life knowing that you have eternal life! God cannot lie; He promised us eternal life and He has done it! Titus 1:2 tells us:

In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Let’s turn back to John 17:4:

I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

Who did Jesus Christ glorify on the earth? God, his Father. Whose work did Jesus Christ finish? His Father’s work. Jesus did not say, “I glorified me on earth.” Jesus did not say, “I have finish my own work.” Jesus Christ manifested God’s name to his disciples by teaching them the Word of God. Look at John 17:5-8:

And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word [logos].

Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words [Greek word “rhema”] which thou gavest me; and they have received them and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

Jesus Christ gave his disciples the detailed accuracy of the Word that God gave him. The disciples received God’s Word and knew surely that Jesus Christ came out from God! Jesus Christ prayed for his disciples in John 17:9-11:

I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one [in purpose], as we are.

The word “one” does not mean “equal to,” but rather signifies “unity of purpose.” Jesus prayed that those believers God had given him would be one in unity of purpose with him and his heavenly Father. Jesus kept his disciples that God gave him. Continue with John 17:12:

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

God, by His foreknowledge, knows a head of time what will happen. God sees all events as one. Therefore, by God's foreknowledge, He knew that Judas would betray Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ gave his disciples God's Word and fulfilled God's Word!

Let's look at John 17:13-14:

And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

I have given them thy word [logos]; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

The "world" refers to the world since the fall of Adam and Eve, which is separated from God as demonstrated in and through humanity. Satan is the God of this world.

2 Corinthians 4:4:

In whom the god [Satan] of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

The world is not going to love you because you speak God's Word. You are not "of the world, even as Jesus Christ "Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father (Galatians 1:4).

It was the will of God for Jesus Christ to "deliver us from this present evil world!"

Jesus Christ gave his disciples God's Word, which made known God's heart to His people. God's Word makes known His desire to provide abundantly for His people. Jesus Christ prayed that God would keep His people from the evil one, which is the adversary.

John 17:15-16:

I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil [one-the adversary].

They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

This is second time Jesus says to the Father “*They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*” When the Word of God states something twice, God establishes it. Look at Genesis 41:32:

And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God.

Back John 17:17:

Sanctify [set apart] them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

What is truth? God’s Word rightly divided is truth! The truth of God’s Word delivers confident boundaries of thought and behaviors for God’s people. The truth of God’s Word is the data center, the source, the lexicon, or encyclopedia on life that we utilize to get answers to questions. God’s Word gives vision for our life and direction on any subject in life. God is the author of life, and He loved us enough to give us a written manual on how to live life! We are set apart by the truth, and we must speak it to others in this world.

John 17:18-19:

As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

And for their sakes I sanctify [set apart] myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Jesus Christ sanctified himself to the ultimate degree. He was obedient to death on the cross. God’s only begotten son shed his blood, and even died physically, to set us apart. We are set apart by the truth of God’s Word. Believing and acting on God’s Word sets us apart in this world. Jesus’s prayer for his disciples is really a prayer for all of us who should believe on him.

John 17:20:

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall [should] believe on me through their word.

In verse 20, Jesus Christ prayed for those “*which shall believe on me.*” This includes all born again believers today. It’s great to understand that we can be one in purpose with God and His wonderful son. What is our unified purpose? To have the same purpose as God and His son Jesus Christ, “*who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth*” (1Timothy 2:4).

John 17:21:

That they all may be one [in purpose]; 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.

As we hold forth God's Word and do the works that Jesus Christ did, the world believes that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ. We know God loves us as He loves Jesus Christ, and that we are one in purpose with God and His son!

John 17:22-24:

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one [in purpose], even as we are one [in purpose]:

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 [agapao] them, as thou hast loved [agapao] me.

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 [agapao] me before the foundation of the world.

Jesus again says the world has not known God our heavenly Father. And the scripture tells us that Jesus Christ has known his heavenly Father. The Word tells us that Jesus' disciples knew that his heavenly Father sent him by his teachings and his works.

John 17:25-26:

O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.

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.

We know our heavenly Father because Jesus Christ declared Him to us. We know when Christ returns to gather the believers, 'dead and alive, we shall ever be with the Lord (1 Thessalonian 4:17).

Jesus Christ made known the name of his Father to his disciples. He made known to them the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation. Jesus taught them that God loved His Son, and so He would love them. Wow! What a prayer!

In summary, we read John 17:1-24, and we learned Life eternal is to know the only true God and His son Jesus Christ whom God had sent. Those of us who believed "on the name of the Son of God" know, without any doubt, we have eternal life! Jesus Christ glorified God his Father on the earth and finished his Father's work on earth. Jesus Christ taught his disciples the detailed accuracy of the Word that God

gave him. Jesus Christ prayed that those believers God had given him would be one in unity of purpose with him and his heavenly Father. The world is not going to love you because you speak God's Word because you are not "of the world," even as Jesus Christ was not of the world. God's only begotten son shed his blood, and even died physically to set us apart. We are to be set apart by God's Spirit and the truth of God's Word. We are to be one in purpose with God our Father and His Son the Lord Jesus Christ "*who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth*" (1Timothy 2:4).

Father, I thank you for loving us and calling us to your household. I thank you for loving us enough to give us a written manual on how to live life more than abundantly. I thank you that we can know you, the only true God, and your son the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for your son whom you sent into this world to make known Your name, that through him, we have eternal life. O righteousness Father, I thank you that we can be one in purpose with you and your son. Amen

Next month's teaching subject will focus on 1 John 4 – God's Agape Love.

In the Lord,

Ministry of Reconciliation
Son of God through Jesus Christ
Ambassador for Christ