

Community Group Discussion Guide

November 10, 2013

Week 10 - Sent John 17:13-19

Introduction

In this sermon series we're looking at ten of these 'crux of the matter' statements that are made by Jesus about some of life's most critical issues. Issues that have the potential to be life changing for every one of us. Read John 17 before answering the following questions.

Questions for Study

- 1. What are the names of friends living in Omaha with whom you interact and socialize with on a regular basis? Friends, that is, who do not share your faith in Jesus Christ.
- 2. When is the last time you've had a conversation with one of your friends about your faith in Jesus Christ?
- 3. How did this conversation go? What would you say were the pluses and minuses? If you could have that conversation again, what do you think you'd say differently or add to what you said?
- 4. If you've experienced push back from friends you've talked with about your faith, what would you say they object to most often?
- 5. Jesus was often criticized for spending time with men and women who had a reputation for living a very sinful life. (Matthew 9:9-13, Luke 19:1-10) How would you say you respond internally to someone whose lifestyle is radically different from yours? How willing are you to build friendships with people living a very sinful lifestyle?
- 6. Do you believe your faith is a private matter? If yes, why?
- 7. If you're intimidated by the idea of telling others about your faith in Jesus, what do you find most intimidating about doing this?

Read John 17:13-19 and then answer the following questions:

- 8. Why does Jesus say he's asking what he's asking in his prayer? (vs. 13) If you were to ask Jesus what gives him joy, what do you think he'd say? (Answer this second question and then check out what's written in Hebrews 12:2. After reading this verse in Hebrews, then think about how this connects with us telling others about our faith.)
- Jesus gives us a strategy in verses 14-19 for relating to the sinful world in which we live. Read these verses carefully and see if you can identify this strategy. Hint: It has three parts to it and each part includes the word "world."