

**Bonus Points**  
"Uncommon Peace"  
02/17/08  
John 17:6-19



**Our deep desire at Grace Community Church** is not only to help people get into the Word of God, but to help get the Word of God into people. But we realize that most people don't have the advantages of a Bible degree, a library full of books, or the freedom to devote many extra hours to study. So we want to help make the Scripture more accessible to you by offering additional commentary, insight, and other suggested resources to enhance your own study of God's Word. Each week we'll offer these tools that will coincide with the passage taught that Sunday. As you spend time in Scripture on your own, we hope this will enhance your study, develop your insight, and build your confidence in handling God's Word well.

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.*  
2 Timothy 2:15

## **John 17:6-19**

### **Jesus prays concerning the disciples.**

1. **(6-8)** Jesus speaks of His mission among the disciples and their reception of it.

"I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me."

a. Having taught and encouraged the disciples as much as He could on the eve of their despair, Jesus now does the great thing: He commits them to the Father in prayer.

b. **I have manifested Your name to the men:** Jesus did not simply teach about the name (character) of God, He manifested (displayed) that character.

i. "God is love" or "God is holy" must be lived as well as believed. Jesus did both for His disciples, and led them into both believing and living what was right before God.

c. **They have kept Your word:** When we think of all the failures and disappointments from the disciples, this is a kind assessment of Jesus. He generously judges His disciples.

d. **They have known surely that I came forth from You:** They may not understand everything, but they believe in the Divine origin of Jesus and His teaching.

2. **(9-10)** Jesus directs His prayer.

"I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them."

a. When Jesus says **I do not pray for the world** it is not out of unconcern for the world's plight. It was because of a focus on His own disciples. "He was praying for the instrument He was creating, through which He would reach the world." (Morgan)

b. **All Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine:** Anyone can say to God the Father **all mine are Yours** but only Jesus could say **and Yours are Mine**.

c. **I am glorified in them:** No one should be glorified in the believer other than Jesus. Leaders have a tendency to glorify themselves in their followers, but it should only be Jesus.

3. **(11-12)** Jesus' first request for the disciples: Father, keep them.

"Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled."

a. **Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me:** The basis of Jesus' request is rooted in the **name** (character) of God. God is glorified by completion of His work in us.

i. Our continuing on in Jesus is not left to our own efforts alone. The world, the flesh, and the devil are so mighty, so pervasive, and so seductive, we could never keep ourselves in our own efforts. If we stay with Jesus, it is because Jesus has prayed for us "Father, keep them."

b. **While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name:** Jesus kept the apostolic band together and safe during His earthly ministry. He prays that this "keeping" would continue.

c. **None of them is lost except the son of perdition:** There was one exception to Jesus' work in keeping the disciples, Judas. This is because in fulfillment of the Scriptures, Judas was the **son of perdition**, the one destined to evil and destruction.

i. Tenney on **the son of destruction:** "the phrase denotes an abandoned character, one utterly lost and given over to evil."

4. **(13-16)** Jesus elaborates on the first request: **keep them in My joy and away from the evil one.**

"But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world."

a. **That they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves:** God's purpose is to multiply joy in our lives, not to subtract it. The world, the flesh, and the devil would tell us something different, but God wants **joy fulfilled** in our lives.

i. The joy of Jesus is always just a faint flicker in the worldly believer; real joy comes from abiding in Him.

b. **I do not pray that You should take them out of the world:** This prayer of Jesus cautions us against seeking refuge in Christian isolation; in modern day monasteries. Our goal is to be in the world, but not of it, or of the evil one; even as a ship is to be in the ocean, but not allowing the ocean to be in the ship.

c. **They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world:** Would we have said this about the disciples? Jesus is showing us that we don't have to be perfect to be unworldly.

5. **(17-19)** Jesus' second request for the disciples: **sanctify them.**

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth."

a. **Sanctify them by Your truth: Sanctify** means to be set apart for God's special pleasure and use. It implies holiness, being set apart from the corruption of the world and for God's use.

i. Jesus didn't just leave the disciples to sanctify themselves. He prayed for their sanctification. This process, as the keeping process, is not left to us alone; it is a work of God in us and through us.

b. **Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth:** The dynamic behind sanctification is truth. The word of God read, heard, understood and applied.

c. **As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world:** The thought of service is sandwiched by sanctification. We are set apart for service, not for mutual admiration.

#### Copyright Statement

David Guzik's Commentaries on the Bible are reproduced by permission of David Guzik, Siegen, Germany. All other rights reserved.

#### Bibliography Information

Guzik, David. "Commentary on John 17". "David Guzik's Commentaries on the Bible". <<http://www.studyLight.org/com/guz/view.cgi?book=joh&chapter=017>>. 1997-2003.



1200 E. Southern Ave.  
Tempe, AZ 85282  
PH. 480.894.2201  
[www.gracecommunityaz.org](http://www.gracecommunityaz.org)