



Church at Home for Abridge

24th May 2020

John 17: 1-11

1. Further resources for worship and reflection

Jesus Prays to Be Glorified

17 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. **2** For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. **3** Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. **4** I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. **5** And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

6 “I have revealed you^[a] to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me, and they have obeyed your word. **7** Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. **8** For I gave them the words you gave me, and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. **9** I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. **10** All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. **11** I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of^[b] your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

HYMN: [All Creatures of our God and King \(Family Version\)](#)

Read the words of the Gospel again and let the words sink into your thoughts. We all live busy lives, and in the present climate worried lives. Should we be worried, as we have Christ with us? What should we do? Our Lord and Heavenly Father gave us a brain to use for His glorification. Let's use it for that purpose.

2. Reflections on the Gospel passage

Jesus speaks from the depths of his heart. He tells us of the Father's love for him and his love for his Father, who is the heart and core of his very being. The Father's love continues to be with him right to the end, even to the Cross, to the point of giving his all, his life.

*Is the Father's Love with YOU? Do you feel it, do you crave for it?
In the depths of your heart I hope so.*

"This is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent". All our life we struggle to know him, through words and parables, and through the world which he has entrusted to us. At no stage can we say that we understand God.

Saint Augustine wrote: "Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore, do not seek to understand in order to believe, but believe that you may understand". My human mission is to seek God through every means, and to remain a God-seeker until the day when he reveals himself to me face to face.

I have to work at this, Lord. The description of eternal life is stark. To know the only true God is beyond my imagination. Do we, in our glorified bodies, leave behind our senses of smell, taste, touch, hearing, vision, that delight us now and seem to be harbingers of better things to come? Somehow the knowledge of the one true God must bring all these joys to a new level.

3. Sabbath Blessing

May this day bring Sabbath rest to my heart and my home.

May God's image in me be restored, and my imagination in God be restored.

May the gravity of material things be lightened, and the relativity of time slow down.

May I know grace to embrace my own finite smallness in the arms of God's infinite greatness.

May God's Word feed me and His Spirit lead me into the week and into the life to come.

(Tell it Slant, Eugene Peterson, p82)