







Re-read verse 15. **In what ways could we be confident, knowing that we are protected by Jesus?**

*[Note: To learn more about what it means to be in the world but not of it, go to **Go Deeper Section 1** at the end of this study.]*

In John 17, Jesus prays for those who would come to know him after he left. Read John 17:20–23. **What is the purpose of our love and unity?**

In John 13, Jesus told his disciples they will be known by their love. If we love one another, we will be unified. If we are unified, the world will be drawn to know God. **Would you say that the church today is unified? Why or why not?**

**What stands in the way of us being “one”?**

Unity feels optional in today’s church, but it was Jesus’s final plea to the Father before his arrest. Our unity—our love for one another—is part of our witness to the world. We cannot ignore that what Jesus said will cause the world to believe in him. **What steps could we take today to unify the churches we attend? Our local Christian community?**

Francis challenged us to love one another, to get outside of our comfort zones, to forgive each other, and to actively seek to be unified. **What differences will we have to overlook or overcome to make unity in the church a reality? What challenges might you face as you seek to build unity? How could we work together to overcome these challenges?**

*[Note: To learn more about church unity, go to **Go Deeper Section 2** at the end of this study.]*

Jesus ends his prayer with two final requests. Read John 17:24–26.

Jesus wants us to know his glory, his love, and his presence. **During this series, how have you become more aware of God’s glory? His love? His presence?**

*[Note: “Glory” can feel like an ambiguous Christian word, one that we can’t quite define. If you want to learn specifically what it means, go to **Go Deeper Section 3** at the end of this study.]*

Horizontal lines for writing answers.





**What worldly things try to tempt you from God’s love? Why do you think they appeal to you?**

When we reject the lies of the world and find our satisfaction in Jesus, we shouldn’t be surprised when our actions confuse or even anger people. But we shouldn’t respond to hostility in kind. Go back to 1 Peter 2:11–12.

**How should we respond to people who mock or insult us? What is the goal of our good behavior?**

Why did Jesus want us to remain in the world? So that more people could know God and see his glory. Your outsider status is God’s evangelistic strategy. **What could you do to communicate his glory and goodness through your words and actions?**

**2. Be Unified**

In John 17, Jesus prayed that his disciples would be unified. But building unity is easier said than done, especially when we think of church as an event we attend on Sunday mornings. Read Philippians 2:1–4. **According to verse 2, what are the qualities of a unified church? Would you say these qualities describe your church? Your individual relationship with other Christians?**

Verse 1 is rhetorical: of course there is comfort in love, encouragement in Christ, fellowship in the Spirit, affection, and mercy! But these things are often marred by our selfishness, vanity, and pride. **In what ways is it easy to think about our own interests when we go to church?**

If we want to experience all the blessings of Christ, live as an influential community, and share the gospel, we must be unified. That requires all of us to individually choose to live out verses 3 and 4. **Why do you think our own needs and accomplishments often seem more important than those of the people around us? In what ways do you cultivate humility and attention to the needs of others?**

In this passage, Paul is calling each of us to live like Jesus. In other words, our unity reflects our oneness with God. The more each of us is like Jesus, the more our unity will grow, and the more the world will see the goodness of God. Read verses 5–11. This passage is believed to be an ancient hymn, praising Jesus’s humility and sacrifice.

**What did Jesus do to show his humility and interest in our needs?**

Horizontal lines for writing answers.

**What would it look like to adopt Jesus's attitude in your church? Your work? Your neighborhood?**

### **3. Glory**

Dozens of places in the Bible talk about God's glory. In Jesus's final message, glory is something Jesus shares with the Father. John 17 mentions God's glory six times—but what exactly is God's glory?

**Before we dive into this word, how would you define "glory"?**

Glory can be hard to define. It is almost like asking someone to pin down what it means for something to be beautiful. In general, we can refer to it as a majestic splendor, a high esteem that always results in praise and honor. To see his glory is to behold all the praiseworthy aspects of his character that move us to worship. Often worship is referred to as *glorifying* God or drawing attention to his glory. **In what ways have you seen Jesus's glory in this series? How have you responded to the glory he has revealed to you? In what ways do you glorify him?**

Our necessary response to Jesus's glory is to worship him. But his glory demands far more than a musical experience on Sunday morning. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31 and Colossians 3:17.

**When are you meant to worship or glorify God?**

**In what ways do these verses expand your view of when you worship God?**

Even when we are doing the most basic daily tasks like eating or drinking, we should be doing it with a heart of worship. Everything you do should point to, highlight, or *glorify* Jesus.

**What can you do to glorify God in your daily routine? At work? With your neighbors? When no one is watching?**