



John 17:1-5 Small Group Discussion Questions

- Have someone read John 17:1-5. What sticks out to you here? What strikes you as important?
- What is the “hour” that Jesus mentions in verse 1? Why is it surprising that Jesus would talk about glorifying the Father, glorifying Himself, and His “hour” in the same breath?
- What do you think “glory” means in the Bible? What do you know about God’s glory in Scripture?
 - How does God’s glorify manifest itself in the Old and New Testaments?
 - What can we learn about the Father and the Son from the way Jesus talks about glory in verses 1-2?
 - Daniel said that Jesus describes an interconnectedness between the glory of the Son and the glory of the Father. What does this interconnectedness tell us about God? What does it say about the Son? About the Father?
 - Daniel said that Jesus mentions His “hour” to draw attention to the cross; how does this mention of the cross in conjunction with the mention of His glory change how we think about the nature of glory?
 - Building on the above, how and where does Jesus’ glory principally reveal itself?

- Daniel said that the fact that Jesus' glory principally reveals itself on the cross has several different practical implications. What are some that you can think of?
 - One implication has to do with authority: what is authority? Who are some authorities that you have in your life? Who are some people that you have authority over in your life?
 - Read Philippians 2:1-11. What does this passage and John 17:1-5 tell us about authority? What are some characteristics of Christian authority?
 - What are some characteristics of worldly authority?
 - How should Jesus' humble authority practically change the way that we exercise authority over others?
 - How should the dignity of Jesus submitting to the Father's authority likewise practically change the way we interact with other authorities in our lives?
 - What is the line between humble, Christian submission to authority and becoming a doormat?
- In verse 5, Jesus begins discussing things that occurred "before the world existed." What happened "before the world existed"?
 - What does this tell us about Jesus?
 - What does this tell us about the nature of God?
 - Daniel said that this is the rare verse that gives us a glimpse into God before creation, and there we see that God has always existed in eternal relationship with Himself as the Trinity. Why does this eternal relationship matter?
 - How does the idea of relationship separate God in Christianity from almost every other religion?

- If God has always existed in eternal relationship with Himself, what does this tell us about humanity and our need for relationships?
- What are different kinds of relationships in your life? How do relationships lead to fuller life?
- What do you think is the proper emphasis on relationship and relationship-building in the life of the Christian? How can this text lead us practically into fuller relationships with other Christians?
- Again, Daniel mentioned that the cross is where we see Jesus' glory most manifest, and he asked the question: what is glorious about the cross? How would you answer?
- Daniel said that, among other things, we see God's justice, mercy, power, patience, wisdom, and heart displayed on the cross. Which of these sticks out to you today?
- In verse 3, Jesus defines eternal life. How does He define it?
 - His definition is kind of surprising! Why do you think Jesus defines eternal life as knowing God?
 - What kind of knowledge is Jesus talking about? If it's not normal "head" knowledge, what kind of knowledge is it?
 - Daniel said that Jesus is talking about "heart" knowledge. What is "heart" knowledge and how does it differ from "head" knowledge?
 - How can head knowledge lead to heart knowledge? At what point can head knowledge prevent heart knowledge?
 - How can we practically grow in "heart" knowledge of God this week?