

RESONATING WITH THE GLORY OF GOD | RESONATE | NOV. 26, 2017

OVERVIEW PARAGRAPH

In John 17 Jesus prays to the Father, but it is not just any prayer. Lesslie Newbigin (missionary to India from the 1930's to the 1970's), in commentary on this chapter says, "When a man is going on a long journey, he will find time on the eve of his departure for a quiet talk with his family, and - if he is a man of God - will end by commending to God not only himself and his journey, but also the family whom he leaves behind. Very surely will this be so if his journey is the last journey." Jesus knew his time on earth was short and so he prays for unity among those who would be his disciples.

We will experience the unity Jesus prayed for when we resonate with 4 things:

We resonate with the mission of the church (John 17:21)

- John says earlier in this gospel that "God so loved the world that he sent his only Son that whoever believes in him would not perish but have eternal life."
- "We are given eternal life, not just life extended forever, but unlimited fullness of love and life."

We resonate with the glory of God (John 17:22)

- We have been given this weightiness, or substantiality. That is spectacular.
- Through the Holy Spirit we are given the power, presence, and authority of God's glory.

We resonate with Jesus' presence (John 17:23)

- In the previous chapter (John 16), Jesus said that it is better for us if he goes, so that the Holy Spirit will come. Why? The Holy Spirit indwells us with the presence and unity of Jesus. The Father in Jesus, Jesus in us. The unity between Father and Son, the unity between Son and his disciples...us.
- "Am I spending my life on things that are weighty, things that last?" Being in relationship with Jesus and experiencing Holy Spirit in our lives is spending your life on weighty things.

We resonate with being loved (John 17:26)

- In Jesus, God came home, among us. What a God of love!
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- “God is not simply saving diverse individuals and preparing them for heaven; rather he is creating a people for his name, among whom God can dwell and who in their life together will reproduce God's life and character in all its unity and diversity.” (NIV Application Commentary - John)
- We resonate with being loved. The Holy Spirit indwelling us, he is our comforter. We spend just a few minutes lingering with Him and our confidence, our strength, our sense of hope rises.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do I have a relationship with Jesus or is “Christian” a name/title only?
2. Would I say that I resonate with the churches mission?
3. Am I aware of God's presence in my life regularly?
4. Do I spend time lingering in God's presence in order to be restored?