

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

John 17:1-26

Sunday, January 11, 2015

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. Where did Jesus' first followers come from?

They came from the world.

They were the Father's and He gave them to Jesus.

2. What did Jesus say His followers did?

They kept the Father's word (obeyed, remembered, and shared Jesus' teachings).

They received the Father's word that Jesus gave them so they knew the truth.

The believed that the Father had sent Jesus.

3. What did Jesus do for His disciples?

He prayed for them.

He made the Father's name known to them.

He gave them the words the Father gave Him to give to them.

He prayed for the Father to protect them, as He had protected them when He was in the world. Protect them from the world and from the evil one.

He prayed that His followers would be one [in agreement of mind and heart to do what God wanted according to the Word of God].

He prayed for them to have His complete joy within themselves.

He prayed for His Father to sanctify them.

He sent them into the world.

He sanctified himself so they could be sanctified in the truth.

He prayed for all those who would believe in Him from what His disciples taught (and that includes all believers in Jesus today).

He prayed for unity according to the Word of God that the world might believe that the Father had sent Him.

4. What does it mean when a person says they sanctify themselves? Why did Jesus sanctify himself? What does a person need in order to become sanctified according to Jesus prayer?

The person should mean that they are setting themselves apart from the practice of sin and the ways of this world; setting themselves apart in order to do God's will and to be used by God in holy ways acceptable to Him according to the Word of God.

Jesus sanctified himself for the sake of His followers and for all who would follow Him so they "may be sanctified in truth."

A person needs the truth; the truth about God and the truth of God's word; and they need to believe in and live according to the truth of God.

5. Why does the world hate Jesus and His followers?

Jesus and His followers do not belong to the world. They refuse to live as the world lives. They refuse to follow the leadership of Satan. They fight against rather than follow the evil one and evil ways.

— © Copyright 2015 L.G. Parkhurst, Jr. You may reprint or reproduce Study Hints for Thinking Further for not-for-profit use.