*divING DEEPER* **Discussion Guide**

**TEXT SUMMARY**

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Today’s text, John 17:6-10, continues with Jesus’ great high priestly prayer for his disciples (including us). The context would indicate that Jesus was with his disciples when he spoke these words to his Father.

The great truth that animates this whole chapter is that John gives us a glimpse of Jesus’ marvelous intercessory prayer ministry ***for us***!

We get to hear the things Jesus is praying for his followers even now.

**INTRODUCTION** (observation)

This entire text is made up of statements. Analyze the text using these two questions. (There are several answers for each question.)

1. What does Jesus say he has done and is doing? (“I have… I am…”)
2. What does Jesus say about the disciples?

**READING**

6 “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7 Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. 8 For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9 I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.

John 17:6-10

English Standard Version (ESV)

**DISCUSSION** (interpretation)

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1. Sometimes in John’s writings “world” means the system of thought and action that is opposed to Jesus (1 John 2:15-17). Some-times “world” means all the people in the world (John 3:16). How does Jesus use “world” when he says, “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world” (John 17:6)?
2. How had God “given” the disciples to Jesus? Why does this matter? (See John 6:37-40; 10:29-30.)
3. Knowing what we know of the disciples, how could Jesus say that they had “kept” God’s Word (v. 6)?

**SO WHAT?** (application)

The sermon sketched all of Jesus’ requests for his disciples. As you review all that Jesus asked God to do for and in us, ask yourself how willing you are that God answer Jesus’ prayer requests for your life. See John 17:11, 15, 17, 21, 24.

If I were to align my life with Jesus’ specific prayer requests for me…

* + *…how would my relationships (family, friends, co-workers, etc.) look different?*
  + *…how would my interior life look different?*
    - *thought life*
    - *fantasies and ambitions*
    - *anxieties*
    - *private prayer life*
  + *…how would my stewardship look different, the way I manage the resources God has entrusted to me?*
    - *time*
    - *gifts and abilities*
    - *social advantages*
    - *financial resources*