

SERMON NOTES

7th Sunday of Easter/Sunday after the Ascension, Year B * 5/16/2021

Sermon by the Reverend Tom Rutherford

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 * Psalm 1 * 1 John 5:9-13 * John 17:6-21

Jesus is Praying for YOU

Jesus prayed: "I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours... My prayer is not for these alone – who are my disciples now – but also for all who will believe in me through their message." John 17:9 & 20

What is he praying?

✦ "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they're doing." Luke 23:34

✦ "Protect them...so they may be one." John 17:11

✦ "My prayer is not that you take them out of this world, but that you protect them from the evil one." John 17:15

✦ "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." John 17:17

✦ "As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world." Change the world through them! John 17:18

Next Week's Lessons

Acts 2:1-21 * Psalm 104:25-37 * Romans 8:22-27 *
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Chewing on Our Daily Bread

Questions for conversation with your family, Home Group, or a friend

1. Since his Ascension into heaven, Jesus has been praying for you. He's praying for you now! John 17:11-21 tells us some of what he's praying. Verse 11 says he's praying "that you may be one" with other believers. What is one way you are connected with your Messiah family? How does that affect your life?
2. Verse 15 says Jesus is praying for your protection. Share a time God protected you from something or someone.
3. Verse 17 says Jesus is praying that we would be "sanctified by the truth of his Word" – the Bible. What is a truth from the Bible that helps you cope with difficulty or that guides you through life?
4. Verse 18 says he sends us into the world to change it. What is one way you are changing the world with Jesus? And for whom?
5. PRAY:
 - ✦ Thanking God for protecting and guiding you.
 - ✦ For God to continue to work through you to change the world with Jesus.
 - ✦ For any needs in your group.