



May 13, 2018 John 17:6-19 & Acts 1; 15-17, 20-26

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ENTERING THE SCENE:

Just before Jesus goes out to be arrested, he goes deep into prayer. He prays for the disciples and for each of us, that we may all know God like he knows God. He trusts that eternal life is the realization that we are all God's beloveds. He sinks into prayer, as one who is leading worship for those present. Imagine yourself sitting around the table that night. How might you feel as you heard Jesus praying for you? Could this help you start to appreciate how the disciples must have felt as they tried to comprehend what was going on? Jesus knew that all those given him were God's. This includes us. What are you feeling as you sink into this?

Jn. 17:6-19

6 "I have made your **name** known to those whom you **gave** me from the **world**. They were **yours**, and you **gave** them to me, and they have kept your **word**. 7 Now they **know** that everything you have **given** me is from you; "for the **words** that you gave to me I have **given** to them, and they have **received** them and **know** in **truth** that I came from you; and they have **believed** that you sent me. 9 I am **asking** on

their behalf; I am not **asking** on behalf of the **world**, but on **behalf** of those whom you **gave** me, because they are **yours**. 10 All **mine** are **yours**, and **yours** are **mine**; and I have been **glorified** in them.

11 And now I am no longer in the **world**, but they are in the **world**, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, **protect** them in your **name** that you have **given** me, so that they may be **one**, as we are **one**. 12 while I was with them, I **protected** them in your **name** that you have **given** me. I **guarded** them, and not one of them was **lost** except the one destined to be **lost**, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13 but now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the **world** so that they may have my **joy** made **complete** in themselves. 14 I have **given** them your **word**, and the **world** has **hated** them because they do not **belong** to the **world**, just as I do not **belong** to the **world**. 15 I am not asking you to take them out of the **world**, but I ask you to **protect** them from the **evil one**. 16 They do not belong to the **world**, just as I do not **belong** to the **world**. 17 **Sanctify** them in the **truth**; your **word** is **truth**. 18 As you have **sent** me into the **world**, so I have **sent** them into the **world**. 19 and for their sakes I **sanctify** myself, so that they also may be **sanctified** in **truth**.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Jesus teaches that all of us will be protected in his name. What does that mean to you?

PRAYER: Holy God, I come to you in prayer as one of those whom your son Jesus prayed for. I count on the protection he promised as I live in the world while trying to remember that I am not of the world. It gives me strength and courage to press on as I rely on that promise and look forward to whatever your will is for me today. Amen.