# **OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION --** Answer these questions together:

## 1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Read verse 6 again. Jesus has manifested (made known) God's name (character). To know God, we must know Jesus. Do you tend to see Jesus and the Father as the same? Different? What specifically does the person of Jesus reveal to your heart about God the Father?

b) How can your knowledge of the character of God increase your motivation to live on mission for him?

## 2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Pastor Akin said that often we don't live on mission because we don't think we are prepared. Does that ring true for you? Do you see yourself as prepared for mission? Why or why not?

b) Read verse 6 again. We are God's gift of love to the Son. How does this amazing truth prepare your heart and give you confidence for mission?

# 3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Our salvation is the result of both God's sovereignty and preservation and our faith. Where do we see God's sovereignty and preservation in this part of Christ's prayer? Where do we see our faith and trust (hint: verse 6)? Why is believing both of these truths so important for conducting our mission to reach our community with the gospel?

### **APPLICATION**

a) Do you feel united to the church and to its mission? How might you be united to the people and the mission of the local church?

b) Do you feel prepared for the mission? How might you be better prepared to go make disciples?

### FIGHTER VERSES: John 17: 15-19.

### PRAYER

- Praise God for sovereign salvation and preservation of our lives.
- Confess ways that you have increased division rather than unity in the church.
- Thank Jesus for praying for you and protecting you.
- Ask God to help you to trust his equipping of you by his Spirit.