

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) Like last week, make a list of everything Jesus asks God to do in this part of his prayer. How do these things encourage you in your Christian walk?
- b) Read verse 21. What is the relationship of the Father and the Son? What do you think it means that they are "IN" each other?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) This part of the prayer is full of promises for us and several positional truths (who or what we are). Make a list of all your promises and positions from this passage. Why must we believe these truths before we can be united as one and love like God?
- b) Verse 26. Jesus says that we are as loved by God the Father as he is. IS this a hard truth for you to embrace? Why or why not? How might your life be different if you fully embraced it?

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

- a) Read verse 21 and 23. This part of the prayer is also very missional. Everything that Jesus is praying for us to experience is so that the world would know that they are loved by God. How might this effect how a church does mission or outreach?

APPLICATION

- a) Verse 23. Jesus prays for us to become perfectly one, or perfected in unity. In what ways can you strive for unity with other Christians? Be specific. How does finding your glory in the cross help you to strive for unity?

FIGHTER VERSES: John 17: 15-19.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his love for the world and for the church.
- Confess ways that you have tried to embrace lesser glories rather than the glory of the cross.
- Thank Jesus for inviting you into his own life in God.
- Ask God to help you to grow in unity with the church.