

“The Eagle’s Eye”: Class 7

John Chapters 17 & 18

“After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed.” John 17.1

"Jesus' prayerful waiting for God's instructions freed Him from the tyranny of the urgent. It gave him a sense of direction, set a steady pace, and enabled him to do every task God assigned. And on the last night he could say, 'I have finished the work you gave me to do.'"

-From "Tyranny of the Urgent", Hummel.

1. “Oneness”: John 17

- heis”: one and the same
- Love - Witness - Unity
- “Coming together is a beginning; Keeping together is progress; Working together is success.” Henry Ford

2. “Riskiness”: John 18

1. Devotional Questions

- Why do you think the arrest party “drew back and fell to the ground”? (v6)
- The phrase, “I am he” is repeated three times (vv5, 6, 8). Can you think of a particular reason why John might have recorded these statements of Jesus?
- Is there any significance in the fact that Jesus identifies himself three times, and Peter denies he knows Jesus three times? (vv17, 25, 27)?
- Apart from the deeper meaning of this phrase, what does the fact that Jesus stepped forward to identify himself and protect his disciples tell you about his heart?
- Why do you think Peter attacked Malchus?

- And then, why does he become so quick to deny his association with Jesus (v17)?
- Peter's three-fold refusal to be associated with Jesus is tragic, but all-too understandable. What do you think was going through his mind as the cock crowed? (v27)
- His is not the only betrayal in this chapter. The Jewish leaders are scrupulous in avoiding ceremonial uncleanness (v28) while at the same time becoming guilty of something far worse - scheming the death of an innocent man. What do you think causes so-called spiritual people to compromise what they say they believe in?
- Why would the crowd prefer Barabbas over Jesus?

2. Pilate Interview

- Question / question (v34)
- Provocative statement (v36)
- Invitation to contemplation (v37)

3. Conscience Questions

- In which situations do you feel intimidated?
- Where is it that people might not know you are a Christian?
- In front of which people do you feel heart thumping, mouth going dry, head spinning?
- What's going through your mind at times like that?
- How might you react next time in a way that is more like Jesus?

Summary

- "What has stood out to you from tonight?"
 - a. Read John 19 between now and Sunday
 - b. Discuss what you're learning and your questions with your spouse/friends.
 - c. Ask God to reveal what aspect of Jesus he would like you to focus on through this series.