

The Eagle's Eye

A silhouette of an eagle is shown in flight against a vibrant sky at sunrise or sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over a valley filled with mist. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange near the horizon. The eagle is positioned on the right side of the frame, with its wings spread wide.

John's Gospel: Class 7

THAMES VALLEY CHURCHES OF CHRIST

2019

“After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:”

-(John 17:1 NIV11)

“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.

01

| “Oneness”: John 17

Unity / Oneness

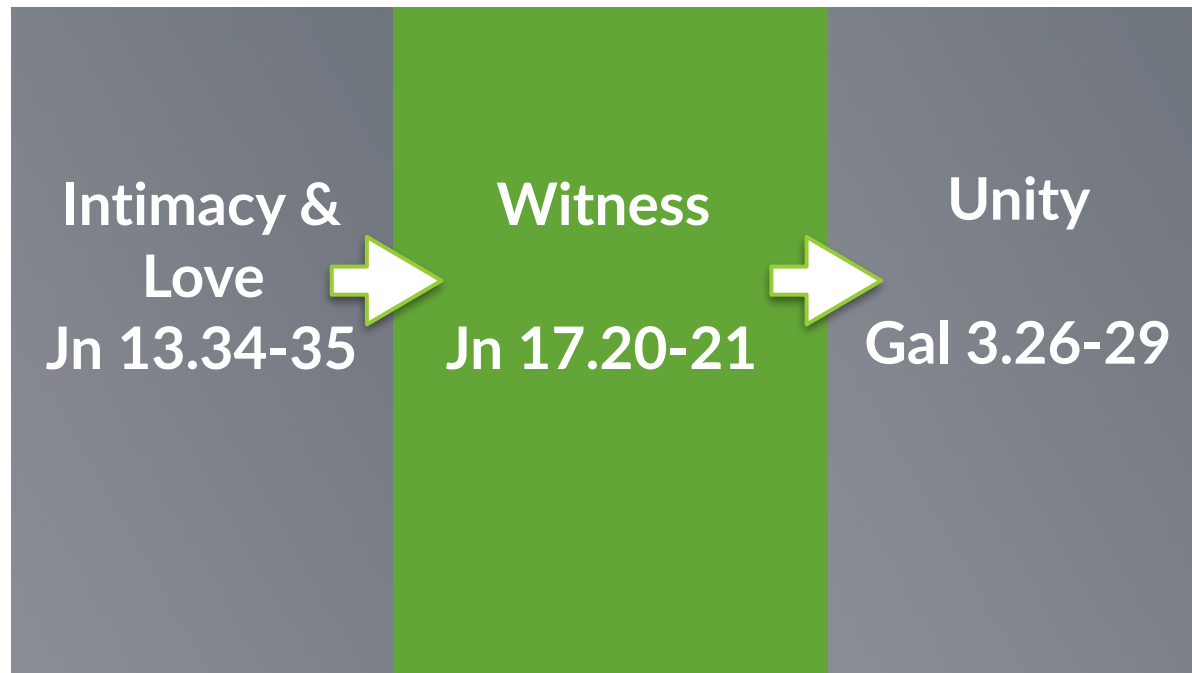
“heis”: one and the same

345x

“I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.....that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

(John 17:11, 21–23 NIV11)

What will oneness produce?









*“Coming together
is a beginning;
Keeping together
is progress;
Working together
is success.”*

Henry Ford

02

| “Riskiness”: John 18

How will **oneness** occur?

1

Going to risky places



Devotional Time 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?

The inspiring courage of Jesus

1. Jesus is not intimidated by soldiers with swords, religious authorities or secular authority.
2. He chooses when to speak and when to be silent.
3. His abandonment by friends and betrayal by a disciple does not deflect him from his purpose.

The Pilate Interview

1. Question / question (v34)

2. Provocative statement (v36)

3. Invitation to contemplation (v37)

Conscience Questions

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

I Summary



Read/Skim



Discuss



Focus

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