



SERMON NOTES

LIVE LOVE LEAD

Live with Jesus

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

Liminal

In John 17, Jesus prays for:

- Himself (vv. 1-5)
- His disciples (vv. 6-19)
- His church (vv. 20-26)

"After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John 17:1-3)

"I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word." (John 17:4-6)

"Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." (John 17:17)

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Description for Series

Have you ever felt stuck because your life felt overwhelming or complicated? Interestingly, Jesus stated that his followers would experience difficulties—their lives would not be trouble-free. Yet, he also said that they would live in his peace. So how do these themes go together? How can there be peace in the midst of adversity? Jesus shows us the answer in John 17. He prays that we would live courageously as part of his mission. In this series, we will see what Jesus' live, love, lead mission looks like, and what it means for us to join in!

Prayer Focus

Prayer continues to be an important rhythm in our individual and corporate lives. We want to continue that practice. As a church family, let's continue to pray scripture for ourselves, our families, and the local and global Hershey Free Church family.

Praying Scripture

The prayer focus for this week is John 16:33.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Below is an example of how to pray the passage.

Jesus, I am so grateful that you came to live among us and told us the things that are important to you. You showed us how to live in the tension of experiencing trouble and resting in your peace. Give me the courage to live with the mindset that you are with me, go before me, and guide me. Praise your name that I can live with the perspective that you have overcome the struggles of this world. Help me to live as an overcomer because I trust you! In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

AUGUST 14

The devotional guide will continue the same rhythm that we used for the last devotional guides where we practiced the 3 x 20 pattern. Spend at least 20 minutes, 3 times a week, in God's word. Each of the three days you will be asked to implement the **Read. Reflect. Respond.** pattern to help get more deeply into God's word.

Jesus prepares his followers for life in a complicated world by inviting them into his mission. This mission is rooted in his gift of eternal life. However, this doesn't simply involve forgiveness and a place in heaven—it ultimately involves a new relationship with him. In the midst of chaotic and unexpected circumstances, we are invited to live with Jesus and experience the peace that only he can give.

The next couple of weeks we will focus on John 17 and how this passage helps us better understand what it means to live the mission of Hershey Free Church. This passage provides insight about the way of life as a disciple and serves as a biblical foundation for the mission of Hershey Free Church. It's important to remember that discipleship is a way of life, not a set of beliefs or behaviors. The same thing is true for our mission. We want to experience the transformational work of the Word and Spirit so that we live our mission as a way of life, not just on Sundays but everyday.

DAY ONE

Read John 16:33.

- What things did Jesus tell his disciples? Read the entirety of chapter 16 to get insights into what Jesus was teaching his disciples in this setting.
- The words Jesus spoke in this chapter were hard words. How does knowing about the hard things give you peace? What is the tension in this statement?
- Why does Jesus tell the disciples to take heart? What do you think it means to take heart?
- Restate this verse in your own words.

Reflect on what it looks like for you to live in the tension described in this verse.

Respond by thinking about how you can show others that your that you have peace in the midst of trouble?

DAY TWO

Read John 17:1-6.

- What is Jesus doing in this passage? What words or phrases stand out to you in these verses?
- What does verse 4 tell you about Jesus' relationship with the Father? What is the connection between knowing someone and doing what's important to them?

Reflect on the connection between knowing God and doing God's will.

Respond by answering the questions in the "Connect with God" booklet to discover the key ways you connect with God. Knowing how you connect with God is one way that you can "live with Jesus."

DAY THREE

Read John 17:1-6.

- Based on verse 3, how would you answer the question, “What is eternal life?” How does the biblical answer surprise you or confirm your definition of eternal life?
- In verse 5, Jesus prays that the Father would glorify him in the same way he did before the world began. What do you think that means?
- To know someone’s name is to know who they truly are. How does Jesus revealing the Father to the disciples reveal the true character of God?

Reflect on your relationship with God. How well do you know him? Are you prioritizing the way you “live with Jesus” so that you are getting to know him more deeply?

Respond by setting aside time each day to focus on your relationship with Jesus with the desire to know him better.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. How would you define “living with Jesus?”
2. What barriers in our lives prevent us from spending time with Jesus?
3. The passage we looked at this week revealed the depth of the relationship between Jesus and the Father. What can we learn from Jesus’ example that can help us live with Jesus?
4. How are you practicing rhythms that help you “live with Jesus?” Share them with your group.
5. As you think about how you’re living each day, would people say that you are someone who “lives with Jesus,” by the way you act, speak, and react to others?