

**John 17:3**

*The Essence of Eternal Life: Knowing God*

INTRO: Humans were uniquely created in “the image of God.” Relationships are intended to be one of the greatest blessings in life. What are your most important and treasured relationships?

Do you mean what you say when singing, “I Want To Know You,” and/or “Knowing You Jesus,”  
And/or “For the Beauty of the Earth?”

John 17:1-5 Sermon Outline

**I) The Soli Christo Gloria Petition**

*(John 17:1, 5; see 3/12/23 sermon)*

**II) The Father’s Three-Pronged Gift**

*(John 17:2; Dan. 7:13-14, see 3/19 sermon)*

**III) The Salvation \_\_\_\_\_.**

*(John 17:3)*

3 Personal and Practical Implications:

1) *Eternal Life is a \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ rooted in the  
Father’s love for the Son (John 17:2; Eph. 1:3-14).*

2) *Eternal Life entails a \_\_\_\_\_ with our Heavenly  
Father and with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

*(John 17:3)*

There's a sense that 3) *Eternal Life allows us to live how we were originally \_\_\_\_\_*; *in communion with our Creator God.*

*“**Knowing** you, Jesus; **Knowing** you/ There is no greater thing! You're my all, you're the best/  
You're my joy, my righteousness. And I love you, Lord!”*

*“I want to **know You**, Jesus my Lord/King of the Heavens, and King of my soul.  
I trade my treasure and all my rewards/ **Jesus to know You, then know You more.**”*

**For Further Reflection/Application:** *Lord help us to be effectually doers of the Word!*

Listen to the following songs focusing in on the lyrics (truths) that are proclaimed: City Alight, “I Want to Know You.” Graham Kendrick, “Knowing You, Jesus.” The classic hymns, “For the Beauty of the Earth” and “Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners.”

What does the death of Christ have to do with the elect (believers) enjoying communion and fellowship with God? What are some of the practical implications of the Temple Veil (outside the Holy of Holies) being torn from top to bottom as the Lamb of God offered up a perfect sacrifice? Note Exodus 26:33-35; Lev. 16:2; Matt. 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45. One author writes this, “The overturning of the old-covenant infrastructure prepares for a new era. The torn curtain reveals that all believers have fresh, unparalleled access to God.”

In his book, *Knowing God*, J.I. Packer warned that you can know a lot about God without really *knowing* Him. What does he mean? He also reminded us that you cannot *know* Him well without walking closely with Him and learning much about Him (in and through His Son and His Word). In view of today’s sermon I would encourage you to print off the song lyrics of “I Want to Know You” and “Knowing You, Jesus.” (see above)

Review the three practical and personal implications (see sermon notes pp. 1-2). What all does eternal life/salvation entail (note John 17:3)? How should these truths/implications impact your praise/worship? Your prayer life? Evangelism and apologetics? Your theological convictions?

How can today’s sermon be used to keep our orthodoxy growing cold (Rev. 2, “you left your first love)? How can it help prevent our daily living and service from becoming perfunctory?

Talk about how Genesis 1-3 influences our understanding and appreciation of John 17 (esp. vv. 1-2).

Related the following Scripture passages: John 10:14. Jeremiah 9:23-24; 31:1-4; 31-34. Ephesians 4:13.

Memorize John 17:3 and Philippians 3:8-10 (note Phil. 3:7-14)

May our daily prayers always be- “Praise the Savior ye who KNOW Him! Who can tell how much we owe Him? Gladly let us render to Him; all we are and have!”

John 17 is the greatest prayer ever prayed. What are some other names that have been given to describe John 17? In what sense does John 17 contain “the real Lord’s prayer?” (Matthew 6 is “the disciple’s prayer”). Are you amazed Christian listener by the fact that Jesus prays for us? Note Is. 49:16; Jn 17:2f.

At its core prayer is a conversation. It is communion and fellowship with Holy God (who is the believer’s heavenly Father). What is the relationship between the Person and Work of Christ and prayer? Note John 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:5.

Sermon Outline of John 16:25-33

**A Word of Hope.**

*(John 16:25-27)*

**A Gospel Interlude.**

*(John 16:28-30)*

Sermon Outline of John 16:25-33 (continued)

**A Dire Prediction.**

*(John 16:31-32)*

**A Parting Promise and a Final Charge.**

*(John 16:33)*

From Sorrow to Joy expositional outline of John 16:16-24

**1) The Foundation for Complete Joy is Built Upon the Person and Work of Christ.**

*(John 16:16-22)*

**2) The Graphic Analogy that Illustrates Jesus' 'From Sorrow to Joy' Promise.**

*(John 16:21-22)*

**3) The Pathway to Deep and Overflowing Joy.**

*(John 16:23-24)*

The Spirit's Threefold Ministry in Relation to the Apostles (and by extension to us, the Church)

The Spirit's role is to 1) **Guide the Human Authors of Scripture (the Apostles) into Complete Truth.**

*(John 16:12-13a; 2 Peter 1:16-21)*

The Spirit's role is to 2) **Disclose Everything Jesus' People Need to Know about the Future.**

*(John 16:13b; Revelation 6-22)*

The Spirit's role is to 3) **Help the Disciples Join His Cause in Glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ.**

*(John 16:14-15)*

The Spirit's Threefold Ministry in Relation to the Big, Bad World. (2/5/23 sermon)

**1) The Holy Spirit Convicts the World of its Sin.**

*(John 16:8-9; 15:22; Acts 2:37-41)*

**2) The Holy Spirit Convicts the World Concerning True and Counterfeit Righteousness.**

*(John 16:8, 10; Rom 3:25-26; 10:3f;)*

**3) The Holy Spirit Convicts the World of Judgment.**

*(John 16:8, 11; 12:31; Genesis 3:15; Col. 2:13-15; 1 John 3:8; Rev. 20:10-15)*

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