

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE / JAN. 14



TO APPLY, NOT REHASH, THE SERMON

We want to start 2024 by joining our church family in *21 Days of Prayer and Fasting (21 DOPF)*. This week's guide will alternate between discussion(💬) as a whole group and praying(🙏) together in smaller groups. We want to maximize our time in corporate prayer, so please limit the discussion to a maximum of about 5–7 minutes per question.

Group Discussion and Prayer

- 💬 Let's have a few of us share our personal plans and hopes for the *21 DOPF*. Any tips we can share with each other? Is anyone doing something like this for the first time?
- 💬 This past weekend, Pastor J.D. started a short series called "The Whole Disciple." What is the most important thing to know about becoming a disciple? Why is this important?
- 🙏 *7 minutes.* Pray that God would deepen our understanding of what it means to be a disciple. Ask him to make us a church that relies on God's grace in Christ alone for our justification (Romans 3:23–26).
- 💬 How is prayer an important part of being a disciple? What makes you nervous or apprehensive about prayer and fasting? What gets you excited?
- 🙏 *7 minutes.* Take a few minutes to thank God for the privilege of prayer. Ask God to help you overcome the barriers that keep you from regularly depending on him in prayer.
- 💬 This year's *21 DOPF* guide walks through Jesus' prayer in John 17. Read verses 1–5 together. What aspects of God the Father and Jesus stand out to you in this passage?
- 🙏 *7 minutes.* Ask God to enlighten us with the truths in John 17:1–5, in order that we can understand the deep relationship between the Father and the Son, and recognize Jesus' glory and authority.
- 💬 How does John 17:1–5 enrich our understanding of what a disciple is? How does that impact our daily lives?
- 🙏 *7 minutes.* Ask God to help us see ourselves as those that the Father has entrusted to the Son (v. 2). Pray for God to enable our church to genuinely comprehend and experience the eternal life that knowing God brings (v. 3).

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Stay in your smaller groups for this portion:

- 🙏 *10 minutes.* Considering this week's sermon, what gospel truth are you most thankful for? Spend some time thanking God for what he has done for us in Christ.
- 🙏 *15 minutes.* Share your personal prayer requests. What do you want God to do in your life and in the lives of those you know? Share these desires with each other and pray for one another.