

The Helper—The World
Study Questions
John 17:9-19

Warm-up

1) Describe a time you've seen someone (possibly yourself) "spread themselves too thin."

What are some signs that this is happening?

A little deeper

2) [John 17:9-11] While Jesus is praying for His disciples, he mentions *the world* a few times. **What do you think Jesus means by *the world*, and why do you think that?**

3) [John 17:12] In some versions of this verse, Jesus is saying He kept His disciples safe by His name. Other versions say He kept them faithful to God's name. These two things aren't necessarily different, especially if you consider that Jesus is contrasting His prayer for them against what was happening to Judas. **In what ways did Jesus keep His disciples safe or faithful?**

Since Jesus left, what help have His followers been given to keep them/us safe or faithful?

4) [John 17:13-19] These verses make it sound like Jesus wasn't concerned about saving the whole world from sin, just His disciples. However, verse 18 makes it clear that while His primary concern was for the disciples right there in front of Him, He would send them out to do the same for others. **What does this say about the way we should approach our commission to make disciples of others?**

Beyond the 11 disciples in the room with Jesus, who else did He impact, and how deeply? (for example, consider Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, or the woman at the well...)

5) We already saw last week in John 16:9 that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin because people do not believe in Jesus. But the Holy Spirit also works in the world indirectly through us. **In what ways can we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us to reach people in the world?**

Bringing it home

6) How well are you making yourself available for the Holy Spirit to work through you to reach the world?

(...Are you trying to reach more people than the Spirit is empowering you for? Are you suppressing the Spirit and reaching fewer than you should?)

How can you make sure you're "in-tune" with the Spirit so that you don't burn out or hold back on distributing God's grace to the world?