

**Valley Bible Church  
Sermon Notes for November 11, 2007**

**The High Priestly Prayer of Christ  
John 17:3-5  
Dale Whitehead**

Who did Christ pray for in His high priestly prayer?

Christ in John 17:1-5 prayed for Himself.

Jesus in John 17:1-5 prayed for His glorification.

Christ wanted His Father to glorify Him in the hour that had now come upon Him in order that He through His glorification might glorify His Father (John 17:1).

The glorification of Christ would glorify His Father because the glorification of Christ made it possible for His Father's redemptive plan to move forward (John 17:2).

Christ, in John 17:3, explained the benefit that would be derived by those who, according to His Father's redemptive plan, would receive from Him the gift of eternal life.

The benefit derived by those receiving the gift of eternal life in John 17:3 is not about living forever (Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:7-14).

According to John 17:3 the direct benefit of receiving the gift of eternal life from Christ is that those who receive this gift not only come to know Christ but also come to know His Father as well.

When Christ spoke of eternal life as knowing both Him and His Father, He was speaking in terms of a close personal relationship (Ephesians 1:3-6).

Enjoying the personal closeness that comes with having received the gift of eternal life is dependent upon us seeking to live our lives to glorify God just as Christ did.

Christ, in John 17:4-5, asked His Father, in light of Him perfectly carrying out His Father's redemptive plan while on earth, to restore to Him the glory that He enjoyed with His Father prior to His incarnation (Philippians 2:3-11).

May God give us the grace to faithfully live our lives in the same manner as Christ lived His life until that day when we enter our heavenly rest to the praise of His glory.