

# *The Pastor's Bible Study*

An interactive study of the Gospel of John<sup>1</sup>

*Week 19 ~ Exploring John 15:1-17:26*

## **Personal Study Time:**

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(Use the following suggestions in your personal Bible study time this week to prepare for our class discussion next Saturday.)

**Day 1: Read John chapter 15:1-17:26 through once and then reread John 15:1-16:33. Now consider the following questions and record your responses in your Gospel of John notebook.**

- In the "parable" of 15:1-10, who are symbolized by the branches and who are symbolized by the fruit? Do these terms have more than one application? Explain your answer. What does Jesus mean by "remaining" in Him?
- List everything in the passage associated with the words "love" and "hate." How do you think these concepts are related in Jesus' mind? What is the relationship between love and obedience in this section?

**Day 2: Reread John 15:1-16:33 and then answer following questions in your notebook.**

- Now that you've had a week to think about it I want you to rethink a question you considered in last weeks study. On a scale of one to ten, how does your local church rate in its carrying out of Jesus command to love as He loved? What are some major barriers that prevent the practice of His command? What can you do personally to make a difference in this area?
- In what ways have you personally experienced the hatred of the world for the truth about Jesus? To what degree was that hatred directed at your own shortcomings in personality or presentation?

**Day 3: Read John 15:1-16:33 and then answer following questions in your notebook.**

- List all occurrences of the word "world" in this passage. What does Jesus mean by this term?
- What event does Jesus have in mind in 16:20-22? Please explain your answer. How does the world's joy contrast with the joy of the disciples? In what ways have you experienced this joy?

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<sup>1</sup> Much of this study is quoted and/or adapted from Jon Paulien and George R. Knight, *John: Jesus Gives Life to a New Generation*, The Abundant Life Bible Amplifier (Boise, Idaho: Pacific Press, 1995).

**Day 4: Read John 17:1-26 twice and then answer following questions in your notebook.**

- With the help of a concordance, list all the passages in the Gospel of John that use the word "glory." What does it mean to glorify someone? What is Jesus really asking for here?
- With the help of a concordance, list all the passages in the Gospel where the word "truth" is found. How do people get sanctified by the truth?

**Day 5: Reread John 17:1-26 and then answer following questions in your notebook.**

- Think of the prayer as a "report" Jesus is giving to His "Superior" about His activities on this earth. Write out your version of the report with particular emphasis on the things Jesus did to carry out His Superior's orders.

**Day 6: Reread John 17:1-26 and then answer following questions in your notebook.**

- How well do you deal with change in your life? Among the things Jesus says in this passage to prepare His disciples for major changes, which would be most helpful to you when you face changes? What kind of advice do you tend to offer others who are facing similar changes?

