



**Sermon Series: *Walking in Wisdom***  
**Sermon Title: *Walking in Love without Losing the War***  
**Scripture: John 17:13-26**  
Pastor Chris Fritz  
Sunday, January 19, 2025

## INTRODUCTION

### I. THE LOVE OF GOD AND THE JOY OF THE CHRISTIAN

**1) John 17:13 - Jesus prays for HIS JOY to be fulfilled (brought to completion!) in His people!**

**2) John 17:14-16 - In Christ, our joy arises from our identity (our unchangeable belonging) that transcends this earthly life!**

Philippians 3:20-21

**3) John 17:17-19 - In Christ, we can have a determined, expectant, persevering joy because we know that we are absolutely in the process of being sanctified (being made like Jesus)!**

Question: Why a process??? Wouldn't immediate, instantaneous sanctification be better???

a) Throughout the Bible, throughout all of redemptive history, God has always been intricately involved and intensely interested in "the process" NOT JUST the "end result"!

b) God reveals His glory, His beauty, His sufficiency, His satisfying presence AS His people wrestle with sin and temptation and as they come to see/know/experience that Jesus is better!

**4) John 17:20-23 - Christ died and rose to give us (and our joy rests upon) ONENESS, GLORY, and LOVE.**

ONENESS or UNITY...

GLORY... (2 Corinthians 3:18)...

LOVE...

**5) John 17:24-26 - If you are in Christ, this is the joy/certainty of your future: seeing, knowing, and experiencing the fullness of God's glory and love. This should matter to you today.**

**Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...**

1. As you consider John 17:13-26, how would you define/explain "the joy" that Jesus desires for His people?
2. Why is it important for us to understand the goals/intentions/desires that Jesus has for us, His people?
3. When Jesus says, in verse 16, that His disciples are "not of the world", what does He mean by that?
4. Why is "the process" of sanctification actually a good and joy-filled thing?
5. What does God want to show/reveal to the world through us, as we grow in love, joy, and sanctification?