

The Father's Union with the Son John 17:1-5

The Gospel according to John gives us many unique insights into the relationship between God the Father and God the Son. To bring all these insights together, we will have to read several passages through the Gospel. So keep your Bible open!

1. What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "I and the Father are one" (John 10:30).
2. In light of the Old Testament, why is it significant that Jesus said, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58)? What does this mean for our response to Jesus (John 5:23)? What does this mean for those who claim there are many ways to God?
3. Read John 6:45-46 and chapter 14:7-11. Why would Jesus say that if you have seen him, you have seen the Father? How does John the Apostle clarify this for us in John 1:18?
4. What is Jesus telling us about his relationship with his Father when he repeatedly says that, "the Father has sent me" (John 3:34; 5:23; 5:37)? How does the Father sending the Son authenticate his mission?
5. When Jesus says that he and the Father has been working from the beginning until now (John 5:17), what work is he referring to? Why were the religious leaders upset with Jesus that he was working? Were they right to be upset? How does this relate to God resting in Genesis 2:2-3?
6. Why does Jesus say that he only does the works which his Father does (John 5:19)? What are those works Jesus has seen his Father do?
7. Describe the love of God between God the Father and God the Son (John 3:35; 10:17; 17:24; 17:26). Why is their love utterly unique? What is the relationship between this love and the love God has for the world (John 3:16)? One theologian has said that, "only a Triune God can love." Why do think they said this?
8. Why does the Bible instruct us to bring glory to God alone (Psalm 115:1-8)? What does Jesus receiving glory from God the Father tell us about his identity (John 8:54; 13:31-32; 17:1, 5)? How are we expected to glorify Jesus?
9. What is the will of God the Father for us today (John 6:40)?
10. What will heaven be like for all those who have believed in the Son of God according to John 17:3?
11. Listen to Jesus' prayer in John 17. In light of the unity that exists between God the Father and God the Son, what is Jesus' desire for the church in v.21? How can we strive more toward this?

Pray that God's Spirit would quicken your hearts and pierce your conscience and enable you to put God's Word into practice.