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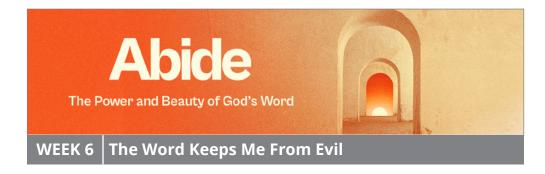
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PRAYER

Heavenly Father thank You that I am in Christ and that He is my Lord and Saviour. Thank You that He has paid the price for my sin and that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Him. Just as the Lord Jesus spent His life glorifying You through His willing obedience and joyful submission, may I in like manner live my life in willing obedience and joyful submission to Him - to Your praise and glory, Amen.

- Knowing Jesus

WARM UP

Can you tell us about a time when you were with someone and because of their name or their reputation you were able to receive favour or get into a place you couldn't otherwise enter without them?



- ⁶ "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.
- ⁷ Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you.
- ⁸ For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.
- ⁹ I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.
- ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.
- ¹¹ And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.
- ¹² While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.
- ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.
- ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
- ¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.
- ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
- ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.
- ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
- ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.
- ²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word.
- ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

JOHN 17:6-21

The Father's words sanctify us and send us: away from evil and into mission. Jesus prayer for us is threefold:

- 1. That we are kept in His name by being one with Him (vs 11.)
- 2. That we have all we need to stay in the world, but we are kept from the evil one (vs 15.)
- 3. That we are sanctified (made to be set apart for God) in His truth (His word). (Vs 17).

■ GUIDE QUESTIONS

DDAVED

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

- 1. Why has Christianity been so effective at some times and so ineffective at others?
- 2. On a scale from 1-10 (1 being never/not at all and 10 being always/extremely) how strong in your faith in God do you think you are in keeping yourself from evil? Why might you say this?
- 3. What are you doing that is not keeping you from evil? Would you be willing to let go of these obstructions?
- 4. What do you need to build up in your life that you might be kept from evil (e.g. time in God's presence, worship, connection with other believers, depth in God's word)?
- 5. Have you put your trust in Jesus? Would you be willing to ABIDE in Gods presence in every area of your life? Would you like to enter into a saving relationship with God through Jesus? Ask your lifegroup leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus name, Amen.