



**“Prognosis for Hope Church”**  
**6th in the “Autopsy of a Deceased Church” Series**  
**John 17:9-19**  
August 27, 2017  
Pastor Mickey Klink

**Introduction**

In this sermon we listen to Christ’s prayer for the church in John 17 and apply it to the future health of Hope Church.

**The Text: John 17:9-19**

- 1) The ultimate goal of Hope Church is to give glory to God (vv. 9-10).
  
- 2) The daily life of Hope Church is to be grounded and growing in the gospel (vv. 11-16).
  
- 3) The assigned mission of Hope Church is to announce the gospel in word and deed (vv. 17-19).
  
- 4) How does this goal, this life, and this mission happen at Hope Church?

*(a) The church is God’s family*

*(b) The church is God’s political agent*

*(c) The church is God’s hospitality*

*(d) The church is God’s embassy*

**Response**

- The prognosis for Hope Church involves you...
  - Pray for your leadership...
  - Pray for your church...
  - Pray for yourself...

## Sermon Questions for John 17:9-19 (“Prognosis for Hope Church”)

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- 1) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 2) In what way is Jesus’ prayer for the church – for Hope Church – a significant thing? What does it teach us about prayer?
- 3) What are some of the important theological themes in Jesus’ prayer? Discuss them together.
- 4) “Sanctify” in v. 17 means “to set apart,” which means it is a prayer of dedication to set a person (the church) apart for a holy task. What is this prayer of dedication for?
- 5) According to v. 18, just as the Father sent the Son, so the Son sends the church. What does this mean for the ministry and work of the church?
- 6) How has this “autopsy” sermon series helped you see the potential for healthy and unhealthy churches?
- 7) Which unhealthy traits in deceased churches is the most tempting for you: past as hero, preference-driven, no proclamation of the gospel, no prayer, and a lack of (or misaligned) purpose?
- 8) How can you make sure you are acting in a healthy way in our church?
- 9) The most foundational sign of truth is a correct understanding of and response to the gospel. Define the gospel?
- 10) How is the gospel not simply the starting point of your Christian life and but also the oxygen or calories of everything you do?

**Further study this week:** Reflect on these gospel-defining passages each day: Isaiah 53:4-6, Romans 3:23-24, and Romans 4:4-5 (Mon); 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 and Galatians 3:13-14 (Tues); Ephesians 2:4-5 and Philippians 2:6-8 (Wed); Colossians 1:19-20 and Colossians 2:13-14 (Thurs); Titus 3:4-7, Hebrews 2:14-17, and 1 Peter 2:22-25 (Fri).