

JOHN 17:23
groups

PERFECTLY **one**
SO THAT THE WORLD
MAY KNOW

In John 17, Jesus prays to the Father for His followers: “that they may be one ... just as we are one” (John 17:23). He speaks of an authentic, spiritual, and relational unity—shaped by the same love shared between the Father and the Son. This kind of visible unity helps others know that the Father sent Jesus into the world.

This is not unity in name only. It is a shared life defined by love, trust, and a common purpose. Unfortunately, many pastors today experience the opposite.

You stepped into pastoral leadership desiring to be faithful to Christ and His mission. But along the way, expectations—both external and internal—lead to stress, overwork, insecurity, or burnout. You may find yourself feeling alone, under appreciated, discouraged, or uncertain.

The unity Jesus prayed for is meant to be lived out. You are not alone in longing for this connection. There are pastors around you who carry similar burdens and who share the same desire for the unity described in John 17.

John 17:23 groups create space for pastors to experience the unity Jesus envisioned: not by performing, but by being known. Here, you can share openly—your joys and struggles and your hopes and disappointments—without fear of judgment or pressure. It is a place where relationships are formed not based on job title, but on shared life in Christ.

John 17:23 groups offer more than support—they offer pastoral leaders participation in the very unity Jesus asked the Father to give His followers. And from that unity flows something powerful: healthy leaders, strengthened churches, deeper connections between congregations, and communities more fully transformed by the gospel.

WHY JOHN 17:23 GROUPS?

What Are John 17:23 Groups?

Pastoral leaders typically meet with three to five other pastors to regularly engage in the **four elements** of group life:

Storytelling:

Share your personal story—at a level you’re comfortable with—when you first join a group. Revisit and update your story each year.

Engaging in Scripture:

Listen to Scripture and reflect on what the Holy Spirit is revealing, then share those insights with others.

Prayer:

Communicate with God through speaking and listening, both individually and as a group, following the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Updating:

Provide ongoing personal updates about life, family, and ministry with humility and openness.

Through these elements, authentic, spiritual, and relational unity is developed, which leads to healthy pastors who eventually serve in kingdom ministry together, reaching their communities for Christ. These groups provide a safe place of transparency and vulnerability, where pastoral leaders can be free from the pressure of ministry to be everything to everyone.



Where to Start

Whether you are the senior pastor of a congregation, a church planter, a chaplain, a bi-vocational pastor, or a pastoral leader in a nonprofit, John 17:23 groups provide the opportunity to share the triumphs and challenges of ministry; a place of safety and support where you can connect with others who have a like-minded passion to serve a unified kingdom.

So, where do you start? You **PRAY** for the Holy Spirit to help you **IDENTIFY** other pastoral leaders in your area whom you **CONTACT** and then set up a time to **MEET** to share about John 17:23 groups and then **INVITE** to become part of this new group.

FORM A GROUP

To form or join a John 17:23 group, please contact us at

- www.john1723.net/groups
- Email: office@john1723.net
- US Phone: 413-225-1723
- WhatsApp Number: +1-813-816-1723

Vision

Authentic, spiritual, and relational unity among pastoral leaders, based upon John 17:23, so that the world will more easily find Jesus.

Mission

Connecting pastoral leaders in John 17:23 groups, so they are encouraged, inspired, and enabled to pursue kingdom ministry together.

Impact of Groups

“My ability to fellowship with other pastors outside my faith community has greatly increased and has brought blessings of knowing how much these pastors love Jesus and love His people.”

“Being part of a John 17:23 group is an encouragement to see other pastors fulfilling their calling, which has encouraged me to press in with my calling.”

“My John 17:23 group has saved my life. The relationships in my John 17 group give me a safe place to be myself and know that someone will pray for me without judgment.”

95% feel safe enough to share anything with fellow John 17:23 group members.

90% say that theological differences are not obstacles to relationships within their John 17:23 group.

82% of pastoral leaders say their spiritual well-being is good to excellent because of their John 17:23 group.

93% of pastors actively engaged in their John 17:23 group no longer feel lonely or isolated.