

In Hopeful Anticipation

Description

[RG Audio 032620](#)

John 17:20-26

It is a common sentiment expressed in many stories through life: “we’ve been praying for you before we even knew who you were.” It’s told at wedding celebrations by parents of the bride or groom. It’s recounted by church boards and congregations installing a new pastor. It’s expressed by organizations inaugurating new leaders. Invariably, these partnership contexts include a hope for unity of life, vision, and mission.

Jesus’ plea to the Father for “those who will believe” conveys a similar desire, a love and deep hope for unity with those not even known or identified yet (John 17:20, emphasis added). This overwhelmingly gracious posture from the heart of God goes out ahead of all of us, paving the way and preparing the heart for His truth and love.

It can be daunting to explicitly share the gospel of Christ and invite a response. May we all at least enter in here, with Jesus, in prevenient petition for those who will believe.

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