The Gaze of Grace
October 25, 2026 – Jamie Brown Truro Church

Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. Jamie opened the sermon by talking about "The D.C. Stare." Have you experienced it? If so, share about the circumstances and how you felt in the moment.

2. The Gospel writers often describe Jesus' disciples as fearful, uncertain, or mistaken. But in this prayer, Jesus expressed confidence in them.

    a. In what ways was Jesus confident in them (see vv. 6b-8)?

    b. What was the basis for his confidence in them?

3. Jesus said, "I am praying for them" (v. 9). Also, in Romans 8:34, Paul describes Jesus as the one who is " . . . at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us."

    a. How does it feel to know that Jesus is praying for you now?

    b. How might knowing that Jesus is praying for you impact the way in which you pray for yourself? for others?

4. Jesus prayed to the Father: "I am glorified *in them*." "Them" includes not only of the disciples who were in the room with Jesus but also we who receive and believe in him. Moreover, as Jamie noted, he is speaking in the present (not the future) tense about his glorification in us.

    a. Do you find it hard to believe that Jesus is already glorified in you? If so, why?

    b. If Jesus said it, it must be true. So, in what ways do you think Jesus is glorified in your life? (If you're having difficulty answering with this, ask a friend to help you.)

5. Jamie said that Jesus looks at us with the "gaze of grace"—that is, he looks *at* us not *past* us. As followers of Jesus, we can offer that same gaze of grace to those around us.

    a. Identify one person in your life who would easily be overlooked during a D.C. Stare. It may be someone at church, school, work, or a place where you shop, or even someone in your own family.

    b. How might you show that person a "gaze of grace"? (In other words, how might you be fully present and attentive to that person for a few unhurried moments?)

c. When are some appropriate times and places in which you might offer such grace to this person?

d. Commit to a time and place when you will attempt to do this. Between now and then, pray that the Holy Spirit will fill you with his presence and that the other person would experience God's grace in your encounter.