

John 14

Jesus' Farewell Discourse:

Day 1

Read John 14:1-7

The way, the truth and the life

1. After hearing about Jesus' departure (13:33), an announcement of betrayal (13:21), and Peter's denial (13:38), what kind of fears would the disciples be having?

- What was Jesus' antidote to fear? 14:1 (Cf. 14:27)

IT'S GREEK TO ME "*believe*" Strong's #4100 *pisteuo*; to have faith (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing); by implication, to entrust (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ)" – Strong's Concordance

"to be persuaded of," and hence, "to place confidence in, to trust," signifies...reliance upon, not mere credence....Matthew uses the verb ten times, Mark ten, Luke nine, John ninety-nine..." – Vine's Expository Dictionary

"[Jesus] bracketed Himself with God and asked that the disciples believe Him equally with God. He required also by these words that they believe Him against all odds. He was doomed to death, the death that overtakes all men. Nevertheless He had the audacity to demand that they make Him an object of faith. He made Himself the key to the question of destiny, and clearly stated that their future depended on His work...Faith in Him was their key to security, no matter how well-grounded their fears for themselves might be." – Merrill C. Tenney (213)

2. Underline the reasons scripture gives for not being anxious:

- Psalm 46:10-11 "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. NIV
- Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. NIV
- Matthew 10:29-31 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. NIV
- John 16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." NASU
- Romans 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."
- 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.
- Philippians 4:5,6 ...The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. NIV
- Hebrews 13:5-6 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." 6 So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" NIV
- 1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. NIV

Applying the Word: What past experiences have blocked/limited your trust in people and in God? Which of the above verses helps you in giving those hurts to the Lord?

3. What would Jesus' departure mean for the disciples? 14:2,3 (Number or list the promises Jesus gave.)

- What does this say about the focus that He wanted them to have?

4. Why did Thomas object to Jesus' saying that they knew the way? 14:5

- Where had Jesus told the disciples that He was going? See 7:28,33 (Compare 16:27,28)

5. What is the only way to the Father? 14:6 (Cross-reference Acts 4:12)

6. What meaning do you find in each of the claims Jesus made in 14:6?

- "The way:" (See John 10:9; Hebrews 10:19,20)
- "The truth:" (See John 1:14; 8:31,32; 18:37; 1 John 5:20)
- "The life:" (See John 1:4; 5:21; 6:33; 11:25; 1 John 5:11,12)

Optional Digging Deeper

Where should our focus be?

2 Corinthians 4:18

Colossians 3:1-4

1 Timothy 6:17

Hebrews 12:2

1 Peter 1:13

Optional Digging Deeper

Fill out the 6th "I am" statement on the chart: "I am" Statements in John.

Food for Thought: "Christianity is not a system of philosophy, nor a ritual, nor a code of laws; it is the impartation of a divine vitality. Without **the way** there is no going, without **the truth** there is no knowing, without **the life** there is no living. Many others besides Christ have offered systems of thought that purported to bridge the gap between man and God; none other has by His own person succeeded in bridging it. 'No one,' He said, 'comes unto the Father, but by Me.' – Merrill Tenney (215,216)

Day 2

Read John 14:8-14

The Father revealed

7. What did Jesus' life reveal? 14:7 (Cf. John 1:18)

- How is this stated in 2 Corinthians 4:5,6?
- In Colossians 1:15?
- In Hebrews 1:3?

Optional Digging Deeper

What does denying Christ indicate about a person's understanding of God?
1 John 2:23

8. What did Philip desire? 14:8 (How do you think this compares to Thomas' uncertainty in 14:5)

9. Why should the disciples have been able to recognize the Father in Jesus? 14:9-11 (Cf. 10:25,38)

For Your Information: "Even Jesus' enemies had admitted that 'Never man so spake' (7:46). His words carried with them an authority which could come only from a divine source. In comparison with all the utterances of the sages and saints, they were unique in their finality and power. Lest anyone should deny the validity of His words, Jesus added also the testimony of the works. The various miracles or signs which He performed were the visible evidence of the Father's power operating in and through Him."
- Merrill C. Tenney (218)

Prayer in His Name

10. What would occur because of the disciples' belief? 14:12

- In what sense would the works of the disciples be "greater"(14:12)? See Acts 1:8; 2:43;

For Your Information: "**Greater works than these he will do:** This promise seems impossible; yet after Peter's first sermon there were more converted than are recorded during Jesus' entire ministry. **Greater** is not "more sensational" but *greater in magnitude*. Jesus will leave behind a victorious, working church, not a cowering one...The greater work described in John 14:12-14 is impossible without the empowering described in John 14:15-18."
- David Guzik

11. What phrase describes a condition to be put on prayer requests? 14:13,14 (Compare 15:7)

12. When you go or do something in someone else's name, you go in their place. What high calling have we been given? See 2 Corinthians 5:20
13. Consider the meaning of the name, the "Lord Jesus Christ":
- **Lord:** *kurios* NT:2962, properly an adjective, signifying "having power" (*kuros*) or "authority,"
 - **Jesus:** *iesous* NT:2424 is a transliteration of the Heb. "Joshua," meaning "Jehovah is salvation," i. e., "is the Savior,"
 - **Christ:** *christos* NT:5547, "anointed," translates, in the Sept., the word "Messiah," a term applied to the priests who were anointed with the holy oil, particularly the high priest."
- *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*
- What does that add to your understanding of praying "in His name"?

14. What purpose would answered prayers serve? 14:13b

For Your Information: "The 'greater works' which they would do through the name of Jesus would be a witness to the immanence of the Father and to the truthfulness of the Son... 'If you ask anything in My name, that will I do.' Should not be construed as a guarantee to fulfill every whim of a petitioner, but rather to complete the revelation of the Father which was begun with the incarnation." - Merrill Tenney (218,219)

"To speak or act in someone's name is to act on that person's behalf or in pursuit of his or her interest. In other words, the Lord will not grant requests that contradict His own nature or oppose His plan." - Charles Swindoll (246)

Applying the Word: What qualities do you think Jesus' words reveal about God the Father? What qualities do His works reveal?

Day 3

Read John 14:15-21

The promise of the Holy Spirit

15. How do we show our love for Christ? 14:15,21a,23a (*Mark the word "love" in 14:15-24*)

- What motivates us to do good works? 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; John 21:15

16. From 4:16, note the way God manifests Himself to us as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. What amazing work goes on between the Father and the Spirit? Romans 8:26,27

17. List the titles given to the Spirit in 14:16,17,26.

- Who else serves as our *parakletos* (translated "advocate")? 1 John 2:1 (See Romans 8:34)

IT'S GREEK TO ME "*helper/counselor/comforter*" Strong's 3875 *parakletos* (par-ak'-lay-tos); an intercessor, consoler
– Strong's Concordance

"means "a calling to one's side" (*para*, "beside," *kaleo*, "to call") – Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words

"*parakletos* is a challenge for translators. It can mean 'one called alongside to help' in a legal trial: an advocate, defense attorney, or character witness. It can mean 'an intercessor, a mediator, a spokesman.' It can mean a 'comforter' or one who 'bears witness.'...No one translation conveys all the functions.." – Life Change Bible Studies; John (148)

18. How did Jesus differentiate "the world" from believers? 4:17a

- What does 1 Corinthians 2:14 add to that?

Optional Digging Deeper
From 2 Corinthians 1:21,22, list the things that God does when we believe.

19. What did Jesus say about the Holy Spirit's work in:

- 14:16
- 14:17b
- 14:26 (Cf. 15:26; 16:13. See also 1 Corinthians 2:12,13)

Food for Thought: "If this news didn't stun those eleven men, it should have. Throughout the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was a rare gift and almost always temporary. He came on certain individuals for a brief time for a specific purpose and then departed. An exceptionally few individuals were granted the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit for life – among them John the Baptizer (Luke 1:15). So, the announcement that each of the eleven disciples would be inhabited by the presence of God should have been astounding news."
– Charles Swindoll (246)

20. Despite his departure, what did Jesus promise the disciples? 14:18

IT'S GREEK TO ME *orphans/comfortless* "*orphanos* NT:3737, signifies 'bereft of parents or of a father.'...It was also used in the general sense of being 'friendless or desolate.' In John 14:18 the Lord uses it of the relationship between Himself and His disciples, He having been their guide, teacher and protector." – Vine's Expository Dictionary

"**I will come to you.** Jesus again promises to come again (previously in 14: 3). This was a broad promise fulfilled by His resurrection, by the sending of the Spirit, and especially by the promise of His bodily return to this earth." – David Guzik

21. What contrast did Jesus make between the “world” and believers in 14:19?
- How do we “live?” 14:19 (Compare Romans 8:11; Galatians 2:20)
22. In your own words, describe how close a relationship Jesus desires to have with us. 14:20,21,23 (Cf. 17:21,26)
- List the attitudes and actions Jesus connected in 4:21.
Love →

Optional Digging Deeper

What reasons do the following give for not knowing the Lord?

John 3:20

Romans 1:21,28

2 Corinthians 4:4

Proverbs 1:29-30

Obadiah 1:3a

Food for Thought: “Lest this life be thought of as mere existence, Jesus defines it in terms of love...As long as love for Christ reigns in the heart, it will bring repeated manifestations of the Lord.”
- Everett F. Harrison (88)

Applying the Word: According to Ephesians 1:13,14 and 4:30 we are “marked” and “sealed” by the Holy Spirit when we put our faith in Christ. What do you find most comforting about the work of the Spirit?

Day 4**Read John 14:22-31****The indwelling of the Father and Son**

23. Compare Judas’ question (14:22) to Thomas’ (14:5). What does this say about the confusion the disciples were having? (“Judas, not Iscariot” was probably “Judas the son of James” - Luke 6:16, Acts 1:13; also called “Thaddaeus” - Mark 3:18)

For Your Information: “*What then has happened*” (14:22) Literally, what has come to pass. Implying that Judas thought that some change had taken place in Jesus’ plans. He had assumed that Jesus would, as the Messiah, reveal Himself publicly.”
- Vincent Word Studies

“The disciples had expected the Messiah to come publicly and deliver Israel from Rome and the corrupt priesthood of the temple. Jesus had said that the disciples would see Him, but the world would not. Judas (not Iscariot) wanted to know how that could be.”
- Nelson Study Bible (1794)

- How did Jesus explain this disclosure? 14:23,24 (Compare 1 John 2:5)

24. How would the disciples be equipped to continue Jesus' teaching after He was gone? 14:26 (Compare Mark 13:11; Acts 2:43; 10:41,42)

For Your Information: "The Greek term [*Parakletos*] can also be translated 'advocate,' 'encourager,' or even 'coach.' It carries the idea of a trainer running alongside someone in a race to provide counsel, correction, hope, comfort, and positive perspective. A *parakletos* helps another toward excellence."
- Charles Swindoll (250)

"The post-resurrection appearances brought [Jesus] back to them in tangible form, so that they were convinced of His continued existence; but those manifestations ceased shortly. The permanent ministry of the invisible Spirit stayed to make the presence of Jesus felt and to make His counsel effective...[The Spirit] would guarantee the clarity of revelation, for He would be a capable teacher and expositor" 'He shall teach you all things' (26). By the Spirit, the disciples were assured of the continuity of revelation. He could renew memory, so that the words of Jesus spoken while He was in the flesh would retain their vividness."
- Merrill Tenney (223)

25. What kind of peace does Jesus offer? 14:27a (cf. 16:33)

- Because of His offer of peace, how should we respond? 14:27b (Compare Psalm 27:1-3)

For Your Information: "The final gift was peace, defined in terms of Himself, 'my peace' (27). Paradoxically, He bequeathed it to the disciples in the very moment when it seemed farthest from Him. Jesus had said a few days before, 'Now is my soul troubled' (12:27), and He was yet to experience a fuller agony in Gethsemane, where He 'began to be greatly amazed and sore troubled' (Mark 14:33). His peace did not consist in freedom from turmoil and suffering, but in a calm undeviating devotion to the will of God. Like the compass of a ship, which steadily points north no matter how the ship may be rocked in a storm, Jesus' mind was at rest because of His trust in the Father."
- Merrill Tenney (225)

26. Underline the extent of the peace that the Lord longs to give us.

- Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. NIV
- Philippians 4:6-7 The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. NIV\=
- 2 Thessalonians 3:16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you. NIV
- 2 Peter 1:2 Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. NIV

27. What effect would Jesus' death have on:

- The disciples - 14:28,29
- Satan - 14:30
- The world - 14:31

28. Why do you think knowing about Jesus' death beforehand would lead to belief? 14:29 (Compare 13:19)
29. How did Jesus refer to His approaching time of death in 14:30? (Compare Luke 22:53)
- What kind of victory did Jesus foresee? 4:30b (Cf. 12:31; 16:11) (Compare Colossians 2:15; Hebrews 2:14,15)

For Your Information: "The ruler of this world . . . has nothing in Me: What an amazing statement! Jesus declares that Satan has absolutely no hook, no foothold, no toehold of deception in Him. Satan isn't pushing Jesus to the cross. Jesus goes in loving obedience to God the Father, and out of love for fallen humanity."
- David Guzik

30. Review the truths that would be sources of comfort to the disciples after Jesus' death.

- 14:3
- 14:12-14
- 14:16,17
- 14:18
- 14:19
- 14:20
- 14:21
- 14:23
- 14:26
- 14:27
- 14:28,29
- 14:30,31

Optional Digging Deeper
Memorize John 14:27

Applying the Word: *In the light of the promises about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit's presence in your life, and Christ's offer of peace, how would you finish this sentence? "When I am afraid or feeling abandoned and alone, I can..."*