



UPWARD

how the parting promises of Jesus
—— lift our troubled souls ——

John 13-17
20 Week Study Guide



This study guide belongs to:



The Journey Upward Begins . . .

Final words can be powerful! Some of the most famous quotes in world history were the last words of great men. Consider Alexander the Great. When asked by one of his generals regarding who would rule the empire of Greece after his death, Alexander replied, "To the strongest." Or consider the weight of betrayal in Shakespeare's emotional rendition of Julius Caesar's last words, "Et tu, Brute?" ("You too, Brutus?"). Yes, final words can be quite powerful.

Welcome to John 13-17. The study ahead of you is a journey through the final words of Jesus before He was betrayed, arrested, tried, and sentenced to death on a cross. They are the parting words He gave to His closest friends who had followed Him for more than three years. His message to them: I am leaving you. Leaving? Think how crushed the disciples must have been! Can you comprehend the sadness, confusion, and disappointment? More than that, can you imagine the fear, worry, and anxiety they must have felt in that moment?

We all have worries and concerns. For some of you, it may be personal: how can I improve the way I look? Why do I struggle in school? Will I be able to make the team? For others, it may be relational: what is going on with my friends? Who am I going to date or marry? Why are things so tough with my family? Yes, worry and anxiety have become common, even acceptable, in our culture. So where's the hope?

The hope is found in the parting promises of Jesus. Yes, His final words communicated his departure from this world, but they also revealed something much bigger: I will not leave you alone! John 13-17 teaches how Jesus **HAS** provided and **WILL** provide everything we need in order to live with hope, trust, and encouragement, even in a world filled with countless troubles. In His final hours, Jesus chose not to isolate Himself but, rather, draw near to those who needed Him most. He loved them to the very end.

John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, gives us a special look into what took place that final night of Jesus' life. So, will you join us on the journey? Will you pick up your fears, worries, and anxieties and carry them to Jesus? If so, you are taking the right step, for the parting promises of Jesus have the power to lift your troubled soul.



so that you may believe . . .

*Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book, but these are written **so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ**, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.*

John 20:30-31

Reference	Sign/Miracle
2:1-12	Jesus turns water into wine
4:46-54	Jesus heals an official's son
5:1-17	Jesus heals the lame man
6:1-14	Jesus feeds the five thousand
6:15-21	Jesus walks on water
9:1-41	Jesus heals the blind man
11:17-45	Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead

Reference	"I AM" Statement
6:35, 41, 48, 51	"I am the bread of life"
8:12	"I am the light of the world"
10:7, 9	"I am the door of the sheep"
10:11, 14	"I am the good shepherd"
11:25	"I am the resurrection and the life"
14:6	"I am the way, the truth, and the life"
15:1, 5	"I am the vine"



WEEK 1

John 13:1

JOHN 13:1

13 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

STUDY HELPS

Feast of the Passover: The annual Jewish festival that celebrates God's deliverance of the Israelites from bondage in Egypt. The name comes from the angel of death "passing over" the Israelite homes when he killed the firstborn of the Egyptians (see Exodus 12-13).

Hour: See John 2:4, 7:40, 8:20, and 12:23. Refers to the time of Jesus' death, resurrection, and return to God the Father in heaven. Previous references in John's gospel anticipated this as an event yet to come. This is Jesus' way of saying the time has come.

Loved: This is Greek word "agape," which is the form of love that intentionally seeks the well-being of others above oneself.

To the end: Conveys both time and quality. Jesus loved his disciples to the very end of his life, but he also loved them fully, perfectly, and completely. It was love to the last breath. This lesson in love is taught and displayed throughout the next five chapters.



REFLECT

Read John 13:1. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 13:1. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 13:1 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 13:1.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 13:1.

- 1) What is love? How does our culture define love? In what ways does Jesus change the way you think about love as a Christian?
- 2) Read John 15:13. What is the greatest demonstration of love? How did Jesus display this type of love in His own life and ministry?
- 3) In what ways are you most troubled at heart? Do you struggle with fear or anxiety? How about pride or self-reliance? Are you willing to be open and honest with God and one another about these struggles?
- 4) Why do you think the final words of Jesus will be an encouragement to your own personal struggles? What are you most looking forward to in this study?



PRAY

Ask God to give you a humble and teachable heart as you study the parting promises of Jesus this year.



WEEK 2

John 13:2-11

JOHN 13:2-11

² During supper, when the **devil** had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴ rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not **wash** you, you have no **share** with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are **clean**, but not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

STUDY HELPS

Devil: Term used for "adversary" or "accuser." It is a title used for Satan, who is opposed to the plans and purposes of God.

Wash...share...clean: Only those who have been cleansed by Jesus can have a relationship with Him. Physical or ceremonial washing is a common picture in the Bible of God's spiritual cleansing of people from their sins (see Psalm 51:2; Ezekiel 36:24-27; Acts 22:16; Titus 3:5).



REFLECT

Read John 13:2-11. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 13:2-11. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 13:2-11 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 13:2-11.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 13:2-11.

- 1) Read Luke 22:24-30. How does this story help you better understand what Jesus was doing for His disciples? In what ways does your pride get in the way of you serving others?
- 2) Why is Jesus' act of love so significant considering it was His "hour" (see study notes from John 13:1)? What lessons can you learn from this?
- 3) Why does Jesus wash the feet of everyone, including Judas? What does this say about Jesus' love for the one who would eventually betray him? What should love look like toward non-Christians today?
- 4) Read Ephesians 5:26. How does the Lord continually "wash our feet" to keep Christians clean today?



PRAY

Thank God for how He washes and cleanses you through the salvation of Jesus and the instruction of His word.



WEEK 3

John 13:12-20

JOHN 13:12-20

¹² When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me **Teacher** and **Lord**, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, **blessed** are you if you do them. ¹⁸ I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be **fulfilled**, ‘He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.’ ¹⁹ I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. ²⁰ **Truly, truly**, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.”

STUDY HELPS

Teacher: Similar to the term “Rabbi” used by Jewish students when addressing their spiritual teacher or mentor.

Lord: The disciples would come to know Jesus as more than just their master (which He was). Over time they received him for who He really was – God in flesh.

Blessed: To be happy, satisfied, and experiencing the favor of God.

Fulfilled: Quoted from Psalm 41:9 when David expressed sorrow over being betrayed by a close friend. To have someone’s “heel lifted against me” is another way of saying “to kick me when I was down.”

Truly, truly: Jesus’ way of getting our attention. What He is saying is true because He knows all things and wants us to learn from them. It is a phrase used several times throughout the next five chapters.



REFLECT

Read John 13:12-20. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 13:12-20. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 13:12-20 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 13:12-20.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 13:12-20.

- 1) Do you believe the command to “wash one another’s feet” should be taken literally? Why or why not? If not literally, what do you think Jesus is trying to communicate?
- 2) What is the difference between doing something out of duty versus delight? Why is that distinction important, both for what you have learned in this passage and how you apply it to the Christian life?
- 3) If Jesus knew that Judas was going to betray Him, why did He not try to stop him? How does this passage help you answer that question?
- 4) How is humble service a picture of the gospel to the unbelieving world?



PRAY

Ask God to give you a spirit of humility and love so that you can serve others like Christ served you.



WEEK 4

John 13:21-30

JOHN 13:21-30

²¹ After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, “Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” ²² The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. ²³ One of his disciples, **whom Jesus loved**, was reclining at table at Jesus’ side, ²⁴ so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵ So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, “Lord, who is it?” ²⁶ Jesus answered, “It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it.” So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷ Then after he had taken the morsel, **Satan entered into him**. Jesus said to him, “What you are going to do, do quickly.” ²⁸ Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹ Some thought that, because Judas had the **moneybag**, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰ So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

STUDY HELPS

Whom Jesus loved: This is John’s way of referring to himself throughout the gospel (see also John 19:26-27; 20:2-9; 21:1, 20-25). The title was not an expression of arrogance but possibly one of gratitude for Jesus’ love toward him or as a humble way to avoid sharing the spotlight with Jesus.

Satan entered into him: This shows how Satan took advantage of Judas’ hard heart towards Jesus. The phrase “entered into” is often used in the Bible to describe demon possession. In other words, Satan now had total control of Judas.

Moneybag: See John 12:3-8. Judas was essentially the treasurer of the disciples who oversaw the use of their money. We learn that his greed often led him to take advantage of his position.



REFLECT

Read John 13:21-30. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 13:21-30. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 13:21-30 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 13:21-30.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 13:21-30.

- 1) What is hypocrisy? What amazes you about the hypocrisy of Judas? Is there a difference between hypocrisy as a Christian versus as a non-Christian? Why or why not?
- 2) Read Matthew 15:7-9. How might it be easy to disguise yourself as a Christian on the outside without any real heart change on the inside? Can you relate to this?
- 3) Read Luke 11:39-44 and Matthew 23:12. What is the opposite of hypocrisy? What steps do you need to take in order to get to that point?
- 4) In what ways has this lesson revealed hypocrisy in your own life? How can you be open and honest with your group and leaders about these struggles? How can they help you?



PRAY

Confess to God any forms of hypocrisy you currently see in your own life and ask Him to fill your heart with genuine love for Him.



WEEK 5

John 13:31-38

JOHN 13:31-38

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the **Son of Man** glorified, and God is **glorified** in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³ **Little children**, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ ³⁴ A **new commandment** I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

³⁶ Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.” ³⁷ Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” ³⁸ Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.”

STUDY HELPS

Son of Man: The title “Son of Man” first appears in Daniel 7:13-14. The Jews associated this title with the coming Messiah who would rescue their people.

Glorified: By dying on the cross, Jesus would put the full power, love, and justice of God on display.

Little children: A gentle, tender way of addressing his disciples, as if he was their father and they were his children.

New commandment: The command to love was not new (see Deuteronomy 6:5, Leviticus 19:18, and Matthew 22:34-40). What made it “new” is the standard to which Jesus was calling them to love. They were now expected to follow his example of sacrificial love (“as I have loved you”).



REFLECT

Read John 13:31-38. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 13:31-38. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 13:31-38 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 13:31-38.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 13:31-38.

- 1) What is meant when Christians talk about God's glory? What are some ways in which God the Father AND God the Son received glory when Jesus died on the cross?
- 2) How do you think the disciples of Jesus felt when they learned that He was leaving them? What causes you to be anxious or troubled at heart in your own life?
- 3) Read John 13:35 again. Why is our love for other Christians so important both for us and to the watching world? How is God calling you to grow in this area?
- 4) What lessons can you learn from the promise Peter made to Jesus? Read 1 Peter 5:5-11. What do you think Peter learned from his mistake?



PRAY

Ask God to grow your love and unity with other Christians so that you might have a more powerful witness for Jesus.



WEEK 6

John 14:1-7

JOHN 14:1-7

14 “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

STUDY HELPS

Troubled: A term used to describe the stirring of the soul. It can express a wide range of emotions including uncertainty, fear, confusion, or concern. On this occasion, the disciples were troubled at the news that Jesus was leaving them.

Father’s house: Another way of referring to heaven. Our eternal dwelling with God is described in many ways throughout the Bible including a country, a city, a kingdom, paradise, and a place of rest.

Place: Dwelling units (think apartments). In ancient Israel, a father might build additional units onto an existing home so that his sons and their families could live close together. God desires to dwell among His people, and this picture shows us the close intimacy of our heavenly home.

I am: This is the sixth (out of seven) “I AM” statements in the gospel of John. These statements are spoken by Jesus to show his authority and power as God.

Know: Meaning to accept and acknowledge what you have seen and heard.



REFLECT

Read John 14:1-7. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 14:1-7. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 14:1-7 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 14:1-7.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 14:1-7.

- 1) Thinking back to last week, why are the disciples so troubled? What does Jesus say is the remedy for troubled hearts? Why do you think this is?
- 2) What does the remedy reveal as the root cause of our troubled hearts? Why does this make sense?
- 3) How does the promise of heaven change the way you think about your struggles here on earth?
- 4) Read John 14:6. What does Jesus mean when He says, “no one comes to the Father except through me?” Why is this message so important and yet so offensive for everyone to hear?



PRAY

Thank God for providing you a way back to Him by sending Jesus into the world to die for your sins.



WEEK 7

John 14:7-14

JOHN 14:7-14

⁷ “If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of **the works** themselves.”

¹² “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and **greater works** than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you **ask in my name**, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

STUDY HELPS

The works: The miracles Jesus performed throughout his ministry pointed to the fact that he is God.

Greater works: This is not to say that the miracles performed by the disciples after Jesus’ death, resurrection, and ascension were more powerful than those of Jesus. Notice that these “greater works” are closely associated with Jesus’ departure. This probably sets the stage for what Jesus would say in the coming verses about the arrival of the Holy Spirit and His specific role in the life and ministry of the disciples. It also seems that the significance of Jesus’ works would not be fully understood until He died and rose from the grave, thus making the works of the disciples “greater” in their meaning.

Ask in my name: To make your desires match those of God and His revealed will.



REFLECT

Read John 14:7-14. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 14:7-14. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 14:7-14 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 14:7-14.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 14:7-14.

- 1) What were the “works” Jesus referred to in verse 11? What role did they play in His ministry? Why are they so important to what Jesus is teaching Philip in vv.9-11?
- 2) What does Jesus mean when He says, “I am in the Father and the Father is in me?” Why is it important for Christians to understand this relationship?
- 3) What does it mean to pray in Jesus’ name? Why do Christians often tack this phrase on to the end of prayers? Read Psalm 37:4. Does this really mean Jesus will give us anything we ask for?
- 4) What do you pray for when you pray? How has the teaching of the Upper Room changed the way you think about prayer and what you pray for?



PRAY

Ask God to help you change the way you pray, specifically that you pray for the things He desires for your life rather than just the things you want.



WEEK 8

John 14:15-24

JOHN 14:15-24

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another **Helper**, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”

¹⁸ “I will not leave you as **orphans**; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and **manifest** myself to him.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.”

STUDY HELPS

Helper: This is one of Jesus’ favorite ways to describe the Holy Spirit. He will come alongside God’s people to give them the help and counsel of Jesus.

Orphans: Spiritually, not physically. Though His departure would make them feel abandoned, Jesus promised He would not leave them on their own.

Manifest: To show or reveal.

»» REFLECT

Read John 14:15-24. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS

»» OBSERVE

Read John 14:15-24. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).

»» SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 14:15-24 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 14:15-24.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 14:15-24.

- 1) Who is the Holy Spirit? Why is He called “the Helper?” Why is this an appropriate title? In what ways does the Holy Spirit help followers of Jesus?
- 2) How was the promise of the Holy Spirit meant to comfort Jesus’ disciples? How does this promise bring comfort to your troubled heart today?
- 3) Read John 14:15-24 again. How do you demonstrate to the world that Jesus is alive and living in you through the Holy Spirit? How does worry and anxiety affect your witness to the world?
- 4) How do true disciples reveal their love for Jesus? Consider what Jesus says in v.24. What does your life currently reveal about your love for Jesus?



PRAY

Thank God that He has sent the Holy Spirit to be a helper for all who put their faith in Jesus.



WEEK 9

John 14:25-31

JOHN 14:25-31

²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you **all things** and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷ **Peace** I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is **greater** than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the **ruler of this world** is coming. He has no claim on me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. **Rise, let us go from here.**”

STUDY HELPS

All things: Specifically, things that pertain to Jesus and His teaching. One of the primary ministries of the Holy Spirit is to bring clarity to what Jesus taught.

Peace: A common term used to express harmony in situations and relationships. It comes from the Hebrew term *shalom*, which was a blessing of God’s favor, indicating that all is well.

Greater: Jesus was NOT making a statement that He was less than God or less important than God. Rather, He was showing His role as the submissive Son who came to do the will of His heavenly Father.

Ruler of this world: Another title used for Satan. He is not the actual ruler of this world, but God has divinely allowed him to have influence on the world for a determined period of time (see Revelation 20:1-10).

Rise, let us go from here: Jesus and the disciples had finished the Passover meal in the upper room. They now began their journey to the Garden of Gethsemane near the base of the Mount of Olives (outside the city walls of Jerusalem). This is where Jesus would be betrayed and arrested.



REFLECT

Read John 14:25-31. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 14:25-31. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 14:25-31 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 14:25-31.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 14:25-31.

- 1) What does it mean to have peace? What causes you to NOT feel at peace? How do you think the peace offered by Jesus differs from the peace promised by the world?
- 2) The triune God is present in this passage. In what ways does the work of the Holy Spirit often become neglected or forgotten in your own life? Why do Christians tend to emphasize the work of God the Father and God the Son but not God the Spirit?
- 3) Why is it good news that Jesus is leaving His disciples? Why is His departure an act worth rejoicing rather than mourning?
- 4) As this section of our study comes to a close, what lessons have stood out to you over the past nine weeks? What are your biggest takeaways? What action do you need to take?



PRAY

Confess to God all the ways you are currently feeling anxious or worried and ask Him to fill you with the peace of Jesus.



WEEK 10

John 15:1-11

JOHN 15:1-11

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

STUDY HELPS

I am: This is the final “I AM” statement in John’s gospel (see notes from week 6).

Abide: To remain or stay connected to something else.

Nothing: Apart from Jesus, no one can produce spiritual fruit (see Galatians 5:22-23).



REFLECT

Read John 15:1-11. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 15:1-11. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 15:1-11 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .

LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 15:1-11.

DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 15:1-11.

- 1) What does it mean to abide (remain) in Jesus? How do you practically do this?
- 2) In what ways do people often try to produce spiritual fruit apart from abiding in Jesus? Why is this both dangerous and foolish?
- 3) What forms do spiritual fruit take in the life of a believer? What fruit do you (or others) currently see in your own life?
- 4) How can you intentionally prioritize your relationship with Jesus this coming year? In what ways can your small group (or family) help you out or hold you accountable?

PRAY

Ask God to help you abide in Jesus rather than depend on yourself to produce spiritual fruit.



WEEK 11

John 15:12-17

JOHN 15:12-17

¹² “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you **servants**, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but **I chose you** and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, **he may give it to you**. ¹⁷ These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

STUDY HELPS

Servants: The term used here is actually the word “slave.” Slavery did not have the negative connotations in Jewish culture that it does today. A slave was someone who was bought, owned, provided for, and protected by his master.

I chose you: In Jewish culture, students typically picked their Rabbi (teacher). Jesus not only chose the disciples to be His students but saved them apart from their qualifications or merit. Add to this the fact that he appointed them to continue His ministry after His departure.

He may give it to you: Prayers are granted based on how they line up with God’s desired will, not our own wills.



REFLECT

Read John 15:12-17. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 15:12-17. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 15:12-17 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 15:12-17.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 15:12-17.

- 1) Read Matthew 22:34-40 and John 15:12-13. Why does Jesus emphasize the priority of love throughout his ministry? How does the love taught by Jesus differ from the love promoted by our culture today?
- 2) What do you look for in a friend? What makes someone a good or bad friend? What do you think about the idea of Jesus being your friend? What does that even mean?
- 3) How is prayer a fruit of the Spirit? What does it communicate about your relationship with God?
- 4) What does your prayer life look like today? Are you praying with confidence that your prayers will be answered? Why or why not?



PRAY

Confess to God the ways you have failed to show the love of Jesus to others and ask Him to help you love others as Jesus has loved you.



WEEK 12

John 15:18-25

JOHN 15:18-25

¹⁸ “If the **world** hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. ²¹ But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. ²² If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³ Whoever hates me hates my Father also. ²⁴ If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵ But the word that is written in their Law must be **fulfilled**: ‘They hated me without a cause’.”

STUDY HELPS

World: This refers to the fallen world system, including non-Christians, who are under the power and influence of sin and Satan.

Fulfilled: The line that Jesus quotes is used in two psalms written by David (see Psalm 35:19 & 69:4).



REFLECT

Read John 15:18-25. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 15:18-25. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 15:18-25 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 15:18-25.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 15:18-25.

- 1) Have you ever experienced the hatred of the world for being a Christian? How did you respond to the situation? How did it make you feel?
- 2) Are you surprised by the antagonism of the world towards your faith? How does this passage help you better prepare to display Christ to the world when persecuted?
- 3) Do you struggle with the fear of man and the desire to be accepted by others? Why or why not?
- 4) Why was Jesus hated? Why is it important to be hated for the right things? What is the difference between being persecuted for your faith and being “persecuted” for your unloving words or actions?



PRAY

Ask God to give you the strength to stand up for Jesus even when it is unpopular or proves costly.



WEEK 13

John 15:26-16:4a

JOHN 15:26-16:4A

²⁶ “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of **truth**, who **proceeds** from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.”

16 “I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the **synagogues**. Indeed, the **hour** is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³ And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴ But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.”

STUDY HELPS

Truth: One of the primary roles of the Holy Spirit is to bear witness to the things that are true about Jesus (see 1 John 5:6).

Proceeds: Not in the sense that He originated from the Father (as if the Father created the Holy Spirit). Rather, God the Spirit will be sent into the world from God the Father to replace God the Son.

Synagogues: Local buildings where Jews would gather for worship and instruction.

Hour: A term commonly used in John’s gospel in reference to the time of Jesus’ death, resurrection, and ascension.



REFLECT

Read John 15:26-16:4a. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 15:26-16:4a. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 15:26-16:4a is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 15:26-16:4a.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 15:26-16:4a.

- 1) Read John 15:26-27 again. How does the Holy Spirit help you withstand persecution in this world? What practical difference does the Spirit of Truth bring to your life?
- 2) How might the fear of the world cause someone to fall away from Jesus? Read Matthew 13:18-23. What does this passage teach about those who fall away from God?
- 3) Are you willing to stand up for Jesus even when it proves costly to you, your friends, or those you love? Why or why not? Honestly share your thoughts and concerns with one another.
- 4) Is there a person in your life you haven't shared the gospel with out of fear of being rejected? How do the promises of Jesus in this passage give you encouragement to take that next step of faith?



PRAY

Thank God that He has sent the Holy Spirit to strengthen your witness for Jesus in this world.



WEEK 14

John 16:4b-15

JOHN 16:48-15

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will **convict** the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning **righteousness**, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning **judgment**, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

STUDY HELPS

Convict: To expose, reveal, or bring awareness to something, particularly sin.

Righteousness: The right way to live which meets the standards God has set. When used here, the Spirit could be convicting the world for its lack of righteousness due to Jesus’ absence.

Judgment: Whereas the world is often wrong and evil in its judgments, the Holy Spirit is the perfect judge of all that is right and wrong.



REFLECT

Read John 16:4b-15. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 16:4b-15. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 16:4b-15 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 16:4b-15.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 16:4b-15.

- 1) Why is the gift of the Holy Spirit good news for our troubled hearts? Why is it better that Jesus leave, and the Holy Spirit come?
- 2) What does it mean to be convicted of sin? Do you remember when God convicted you of sin and brought you to faith in Jesus? Would you be willing to share this story with others?
- 3) How does the Holy Spirit work through Christians to convict unbelievers today? Read Acts 2:36-38 and 1 Peter 2:12 if you need some ideas.
- 4) How does the Holy Spirit provide guidance to Christians today? Does the Holy Spirit ever speak independently of God's Word?



PRAY

Ask God to use the Holy Spirit to bring conviction of sin to a friend or loved one who does not currently have a relationship with Jesus.



WEEK 15

John 16:16-24

JOHN 16:16-24

¹⁶ “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸ So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’?” ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and **lament**, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. ²³ In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be **full**.

STUDY HELPS

Lament: To express your sadness or sorrow in words, typically to God or other Christians.

Full: Complete or satisfied. There is nothing that can be added to make this joy even better.



REFLECT

Read John 16:16-24. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 16:16-24. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 16:16-24 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 16:16-24.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 16:16-24.

- 1) How does Jesus prove Himself to be God in this passage? What promises does He make to Christians that should fill us with joy?
- 2) What is the difference between joy and happiness? Why is the distinction important for Christians?
- 3) Has God ever turned sorrow into joy for you? What happened? In what ways did you experience the joy of God?
- 4) What do your current prayer requests reveal about your priorities in life? If God were to answer everything from your recent prayers, how many requests could be labeled as “personal comforts” and how many could be labeled as “spiritual mission”?



PRAY

Ask God to fill you with the joy of Jesus rather than the fleeting pleasures of this world.



WEEK 16

John 16:25-33

JOHN 16:25-33

²⁵ “I have said these things to you in **figures of speech**. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷ for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸ I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

²⁹ His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰ Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” ³¹ Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³² Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have **tribulation**. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

STUDY HELPS

Figures of speech: To use obscure words that are often cryptic or unclear in its meaning. Much of what Jesus said was not clear even to His disciples. It was not until after His departure and the arrival of the Holy Spirit that they began to understand the fullness of what He had taught them.

Tribulation: Times of great sorrow, suffering, and trouble.



REFLECT

Read John 16:25-33. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 16:25-33. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 16:25-33 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 16:25-33.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 16:25-33.

- 1) Read John 16:27 again. What amazes you about this verse? If you are a Christian, how does your understanding of God's love for you change the way you worship Him in prayer? Do you believe God is eager to answer your prayers?
- 2) Compare John 16:27 with 14:21 and 15:10. Is Jesus teaching that your love earns God's love? Why or why not?
- 3) How does having a relationship with Jesus bring you peace in the midst of a sin-cursed world? How have you seen this to be true in your own life?
- 4) What are the current joy-robbers in your own life? How does knowing Christ Jesus as Lord help you fight against these challenges?



PRAY

Thank God that you can have peace in this world since Jesus has completed His mission and overcome the world.



WEEK 17

John 17:1-5

JOHN 17:1-5

17 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; **glorify your Son** that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is **eternal life**, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you **before the world existed.**”

STUDY HELPS

Glorify your Son: By dying on the cross, rising from the dead, and returning to heaven, Jesus would receive the praise and adoration He deserved. This is Jesus’ only request for Himself throughout the entire prayer.

Eternal life: To live forever is to truly know God by having a relationship with Him (see Galatians 2:20).

Before the world existed: This is a reminder that Jesus has always existed in an eternal relationship with God the Father (see John 1:1-5).



REFLECT

Read John 17:1-5. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 17:1-5. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 17:1-5 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 17:1-5.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 17:1-5.

- 1) What do we mean when we talk about the glory of God? What does it mean to glorify God with your life? How did Jesus glorify God with His life?
- 2) Even in this dark hour for the disciples, Jesus found it fitting to pray aloud with a focus on the glory of God. How and why does focusing on God's glory bring help and hope to God's children?
- 3) Read Isaiah 42:8. In what ways are you tempted to steal glory from God?
- 4) Read John 3:16 and 17:3. According to Jesus, what does it mean to have eternal life? Based on this understanding, would you say that you have eternal life?



PRAY

Confess to God any way you have attempted to steal glory from Him and ask Him to help you make life about Jesus, not yourself.



WEEK 18

John 17:6-12

JOHN 17:6-12

⁶ “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸ For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹ And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, **that they may be one**, even as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except **the son of destruction**, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.”

STUDY HELPS

That they may be one: This refers to a visible unity that is grounded in love for one another (see 13:35) and produced by the Holy Spirit (see Ephesians 4:3).

The son of destruction: Referring to Judas. The loss of Judas did not come as a surprise to Jesus, since He knew the Scriptures (Psalm 41:9; 109:8; Acts 1:20) must be fulfilled.



REFLECT

Read John 17:6-12. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 17:6-12. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 17:6-12 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 17:6-12.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 17:6-12.

- 1) Read Hebrews 4:14-16 and John 17:9. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus actively prays and intercedes for His disciples?
- 2) Why does Jesus pray for the oneness of His disciples in 17:11? Why is this so important to Jesus? How can you start to prioritize oneness in your prayers and with other Christians?
- 3) What does it mean to be kept by God? Do you believe that all Christians are safe and secure when they come to faith in Jesus? Why or why not?
- 4) What stands out when you consider the life of Judas? What lessons can you learn? What questions or concerns do you have?



PRAY

Thank God that His power keeps you safe and secure in your relationship with Jesus.



WEEK 19

John 17:13-19

JOHN 17:13-19

¹³ “But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

STUDY HELPS

Sanctify: The term means to be set apart for some particular use. Sanctification is a fancy way of saying that Christians are increasingly set apart from sin (farther away) and set apart for God and His purposes (closer to).

Consecrate: This is actually the same term as “sanctify” as used above. Jesus sets Himself apart by obeying the will of the Father by dying on the cross. This act of consecration is for the sake the disciples, so that they can be right with God and be progressively conformed to the likeness of Jesus.



REFLECT

Read John 17:13-19. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 17:13-19. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 17:13-19 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .



LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 17:13-19.



DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 17:13-19.

- 1) Read John 17:15 and 1 John 2:15-17. What does it mean to be in the world but not of the world? What does this practically look like for you in your school, job, or neighborhood?
- 2) According to verse 17, why should you prioritize the reading and study of God's Word? What steps can you take this week to make this a greater priority?
- 3) Take an honest look at your life. Over the past three years, would you say you have grown closer to or farther away from God? Why do you think this is? What has contributed to this change?
- 4) What did Jesus send His disciples into the world to do? In what way is their mission your mission as well? How well are you currently doing with this mission?



PRAY

Ask God to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus by growing your love for God's Word.



WEEK 20

John 17:20-26

JOHN 17:20-26

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for **those who will believe** in me **through their word**, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to **see my glory** that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

STUDY HELPS

Those who will believe: This is Jesus praying for all future Christians. In other words, if you are a Christian right now, be encouraged that Jesus was praying for you 2,000 years ago!

Through their word: Many became Christians through the direct verbal teaching of the apostles. However, most people have become Christians because of what the apostles wrote about Jesus in the Bible by the power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit (see 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:16-21).

See my glory: Jesus' great desire for all Christians is that they behold His majesty in heaven. This glory includes the perfect love of God the Father and the sinless nature of eternal life.



REFLECT

Read John 17:20-26. What does the passage teach you about . . .

GOD

MYSELF

OTHERS



OBSERVE

Read John 17:20-26. As you do, answer the following questions . . .

- 1) Who are the people listed in this passage? What is said about them?
- 2) Are there any repeated words or phrases?
- 3) Does Jesus give any direct commands, warnings, or promises?
- 4) Why does Jesus want us to know this information? Look for statements of purpose (because, so that) or cause & effect (therefore, for, since).



SUMMARIZE

The main point of John 17:20-26 is that Jesus lifts troubled souls by . . .

LISTEN

Take some time to hear what others have to say about John 17:20-26.

DISCUSS

Talk with others about what you learned from John 17:20-26.

- 1) Why is the unity of the church such a powerful testimony to the watching world?
- 2) Are you currently experiencing division with other Christians in your school or church? What steps do you need to take this week to pursue reconciliation with them?
- 3) In what ways are you tempted to live for the things in this world? Do you truly believe that seeing Jesus in His glory is better than anything this world can offer? What causes you to doubt this promise?
- 4) In what ways has this study of John 13-17 provided you with encouragement for the troubles in your life? What have you most enjoyed about this study?

PRAY

Thank Jesus for all the ways He prays for you as a Christian, as well as for all the ways He has encouraged your soul throughout this study.

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