

## Home Group Leader's Notes

Week of January 30, 2022

John 14:15-31

Sermon Series: *This is Love*

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**INTRODUCTION:** This passage has the major essential promises for our lives. It is what Jesus wanted them to hear in His intimate time with them before the cross. This is where I read when I want to be reminded of why and how I can keep going in life.

### WHAT DO YOU WISH FOR?

What do you feel or wish for when you are alone? in the hospital? in a difficult place and without a friend?

Which of Jesus' promises comforts your soul?

**These are tender moments – it could be that few will share.**

### LET'S LISTEN TO GOD IN HIS WORD

This is an amazing passage of Scripture! Read John 14:15-31 and consider these questions.

The disciples were alarmed (troubled) because Jesus informed them that He was going back to the Father. List the provisions that Jesus promises for them. (14:15-31)

His presence

His name in prayer

The Holy Spirit

One another

His way, truth, and life

An amazing promise is given to the disciples (and us) that the Holy Spirit will live in us (14:17). List everything that we learn about the Holy Spirit in this passage (14:15-31).

He is another Counselor

Spirit of Truth

Will be with and in you

He will teach and remind you

A major focus of Jesus' words is about the obedience of His disciples (followers). What do we learn? (14:15-31)

Love dictates and motivates us to obedience. **It you love me, you will obey me.**

(In other places, faith leads to obedience - Romans 1:5)

Jesus called us to a love relationship (Mark 1:17 et al)

How is 'the world' different from those who know, love, and follow Jesus? (14:15-31)

The world (those without faith in Christ) cannot accept (i.e., receive) the Spirit

The world cannot see or know the Spirit

The world will not see Jesus

The world cannot give peace like Jesus' peace

The devil is the prince of this world

Jesus wants the world to learn that He loves and obeys His Father

Do these words of Jesus stir something in your soul? How do you respond to His promises?  
You might ask if anyone would share their answers to this.

In multiple places, Jesus promises that He has plans for an “abiding place” wherein we who love Him will dwell with Him. What do you imagine? Feel? Hope for? Why is this important for us to believe and think about daily?

We are repeatedly taught about our future, our inheritance, our dwelling place with God. I believe that Jesus knows that in this life, we need to dwell on this. There is no such thing as “being so heavenly minded that we’re no earthly good.” Dwelling with God is our hope, our promise, and our treasure awaiting us.

### **DISCUSS TOGETHER**

What should be the motivation / reason for obedience to Jesus? How does this come about?

That love should lead to obedience is clear. Although, this passage is not exhaustive in the reasons for our obedience. Other places tell us faith should lead to obedience, fear of God (reverence, respect) should lead to obedience, the glory of God, the awe of God, etc.

I believe that discipleship includes three essentials: To know, to love, and to follow Jesus. One focus of the gospels and all the Bible is the revelation of God. To properly love God, we need to know God. So, revelation is essential to loving Him.

Throughout Jesus’ life, He referred to His relationship with the Father. According to this chapter, what is the nature of our relationship with the Father, Son, and Spirit?

Oneness of Jesus with God is all through the gospels. (It will be a major theme in John 17.)  
Think about all that Jesus has done for us to be in a oneness relationship with God:

- Jesus’ forgiveness and righteousness are ours to make possible our access to God
- The Holy Spirit dwells within
- We have Jesus’ mind. We are being taught by the Holy Spirit.
- We are given Jesus’ peace, joy, and love
- Jesus is coming to bring us with Him
- We will one day dwell with God forever (John 14:1-2; Revelation 21:3)

How would you respond someone who says this: ‘Isn’t being a Christian just another religion?’  
What do we learn from this passage?

Great discussion. Something we should be sharing with everyone including those in our world – children, grandchildren, friends, etc.

May His great words bring joy and peace to your hearts!  
Steve