

LIFE Community Sermon Notes



Your Heart, Christ's Home

John 14

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God^[a]; trust also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going."

Jesus the Way to the Father

5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"
 6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really knew me, you would know^[b] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."
 8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."
 9 Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. 11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. 12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. 21 Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."
 22 Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?"
 23 Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.
 25 "All this I have spoken while still with you. 26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Sunday, Feb 3

Big Idea: When we invite the Holy Spirit into every corner of our lives He is able to live His life in us.

Key Verse:

John 14:16-17

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

Opening Question: What is the most significant thing that has happened to you this week?

Questions in **bold** below are suggested focus questions.
Sections in *italics* and/or parenthesis are for the leaders.

Read the passage.

Discussion Questions

- 1. This passage finds the disciples in the upper room, sitting and listening to Jesus. Jesus has washed the disciples feet, predicted his betrayal and confronted Peter with his denial. What do you think the disciples were feeling at this point? Have you ever felt like that?**
- 2. What does Jesus say to them to help them with these feelings and emotions and with the coming days and weeks that they will face?**
3. Jesus mentions the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of truth, who lives in the disciples. Remind yourself about what Bryan taught about who the Holy Spirit is and what He does.
4. “The Holy Spirit wants to know the real you. The more you allow Him access, the more He will live through you.” (Bryan Wilkerson). Does the Holy Spirit know the real you? Where are you hindering Him access to?
5. “Abiding in Christ, letting Christ live through you is the secret of the Christian life.” (Bryan Wilkerson) What do you think is meant by the term “abiding in Christ”. Read through John 15:1-17. How does this change or support your view of “abiding in Christ”?
- 6. Bryan used a wonderful metaphor of the Holy Spirit being a guest in your life or living with you in your life? Which is the most true for you? What would be different in your life if you treated the Holy Spirit more like someone who lives with you and less like a guest? Will you be able to make some of those changes in your life this week? How?**
- 7. As a follow up exercise, spend some meditative time this week reading through Jesus Upper Room discourses (John 13-17). Read these chapters reflectively focusing your thoughts around The Holy Spirit, being “in Christ”, and especially the emotion with which Jesus shares these words and the disciples would have heard them. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you where you are right now.**

Leaders Notes

1. *This series is followed up on Sundays with breakout classes. The booklets are called “Making Space for the Shepherd. Booklets from these classes are available online or in the office for the leader. There are some great follow up exercises in the booklet to keep your group on track.*
2. *There is a resource library in 2 Militia with some good resources to use.*
3. *Additional resources on Simplicity, Solitude and Silence:*
 - a) *Invitation to Solitude and Silence—Ruth Haley Barton*
 - b) *Celebration of Discipline—Richard Foster*
 - c) *Simplify—Paul Borthwick*

Retreat Options

- *Steve Macchia’s LTi program is one of the retreat and spiritual formation programs that Tom referenced. Their Soulcare retreat is the silent retreat the staff went on. Find out when the next retreat is and consider joining it as an individual or as a group. We will be running a retreat for Grace Chapel people on March 15th. It will be a morning retreat at the church.*
- *Grace Chapel is working on a silent retreat for individuals and groups. Stay posted for when this is available.*
- *February 12-16 will be a time of sacred spaces at Grace Chapel. At set times the church will be open for people to come in and spend some time in solitude and silence with God. Make us of this time.*