

03

JOHN 13:31–14:6

JESUS IS THE WAY

THIS WEEK'S **focus**

When we enter into difficult seasons, we might feel spiritually lost and unable to find the way “home.” We can feel confused about what is true and what’s a lie, and we might even despair and believe that death will win. As Jesus and His disciples were about to walk into some of the darkest and most disorienting days of their lives, Jesus lovingly prepared them for the days ahead. Despite how they would betray Him, He modeled humble, sacrificial love and commanded them to live that way towards one another. He offered words of comfort that could offer them firm footing in the days ahead. No matter the horrors of the events ahead, God would glorify Himself and offer rescue for those in darkness. No matter what happened, Jesus’s disciples could know that He is the way, the truth, and the life.



CENTRAL **truth**

No matter what, Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.



EXPLORE

scripture

JOHN 13:31–14:6

JOHN 13:31-35

31 When he had left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. **32** If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. **33** Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so now

I tell you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ **34** I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

JOHN 13:36-38

36 “Lord,” Simon Peter said to him, “where are you going?” Jesus answered, “Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow later.” **37** “Lord,” Peter asked, “why can’t I follow you now? I will

lay down my life for you.” **38** Jesus replied, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly I tell you, a rooster will not crow until you have denied me three times.

JOHN 14:1-6

1 “Don’t let your heart 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 am going to prepare a place for you? **3** If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am

you may be also. **4** You know the way to where I am going.” **5** “Lord,” Thomas said, “we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?” **6** Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

DAILY devotions

MEMORIZE JOHN 14:1

7 ARROWS FOR BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



What does this passage tell us about humans?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?



What does this passage demand of me?

day 1

JOHN 13:1-11

DWELL



What do you think it means that Jesus “loved them to the end” (v. 1)?



What does this passage teach you about Jesus’s character?

The same John who wrote this Gospel account also wrote “God is love” in 1 John 4:16 and felt so personally loved by Jesus that he called himself “the disciple Jesus loved” (see John 13:23). During His time on earth, Jesus loved at every moment, and even now, He loves us at every moment. Out of love, He cleanses sinners who look to Him, even though we keep messing up. Sometimes we can get so caught up in what it looks like to live for Jesus that we put our eyes on our behavior and forget to look at Him and enjoy His love for us!

MEMORIZE

Using colored pencils or pens, creatively write out John 14:1 on a piece of paper. Read the verse out loud five times. Finally, try to say it out loud five times without looking, trying to picture it in your mind instead.

PRAY

Look up Ephesians 3:17-19 and use these words as a prayer to God, asking Him to help you better understand and enjoy His love for you.

day 2

JOHN 13:12-20

DWELL

It's important to notice that Jesus extended love to His disciples before He told them to love one another. The order is crucial because it's a picture of the gospel! When we are first filled to the brim with Christ's love, we can then genuinely overflow His love to others around us. Even still, although Jesus extended love to all those who were present, He was clear they were not all truly His followers. Loving others sounds easy and simple, but this scene reveals that love is often very difficult and complicated!



Look at verse 17. Which brings blessing: knowing or doing?



How do you think Jesus's words in verse 19 increased His disciples' faith later on?

MEMORIZE

Invent motions that match the words in John 14:1 and practice them while saying the words out loud a few times. It probably feels a little weird, but hey, sometimes movement can help engage our brains!

PRAY

Thank God for His love for you and that there's nothing you can do to earn it! Ask Him to show you where you can overflow His love to others—and know that doing so will be a blessing to you as well.

day 3

JOHN 13:21-32

DWELL



What do you think Jesus was enduring here, both mentally and emotionally?



The disciples couldn't fathom Judas's betrayal. How does this prompt you to pray for others who say they are Christians?

When we go through painful seasons, it's always a relief to find a friend who understands the exact pain we're enduring. If you've ever been betrayed by someone who promised to love you, you can know that Jesus cares about what you're endured, and that He is connected to what you've endured. He knows what it's like to be betrayed, and it was painful for Him! (See verse 21.) Take heart and keep your eyes on Christ, because He is with you—and He is known for bringing beauty from painful things.

MEMORIZE

Write out John 14:1 on a piece of paper or note card, and place it next to your bed. Make it a goal to say it five times before you go to bed and five times when you wake up.

PRAY

Tell the Lord about a time when you felt betrayed and thank Him for understanding your pain.

day 4

JOHN 13:33-38

DWELL

Jesus's disciples couldn't (and wouldn't) follow Him to the cross on the night of His death, but they could show they followed Him by loving one another. Nevertheless, Peter was determined to give all he had for Jesus—even if it meant dying himself. Peter's loyalty was admirable, but as Jesus predicted, it wouldn't hold up. It reveals a beautiful truth: Peter couldn't hold on to Jesus, but Jesus would hold on to Peter.



What does Peter's failure teach us about humans? About God?



How could you use Peter's failure to encourage someone?

MEMORIZE

Write down the first letter of each word of John 14:1 on a note card. At least five times today, see if you can say the verse just by looking at the letters.

PRAY

Thank God for the safety of His love! Praise Him that when we are His, He holds onto us forever.

day 5

JOHN 14:1-6

DWELL



How do Jesus's words in verse 6 help you understand His words in verse 4?



Where do you need to trust Jesus to be the way, the truth, and the life? How can His words here help you to trust Him?

This "I AM" statement from Jesus really packs a punch. We may not know what's going on, but we know Jesus, and that's enough. We may not know the next step to take, but we know Him, and that's enough. We may not be able to see in the darkness around us, but we know Him, and that's enough.

MEMORIZE

Share John 14:1 with a friend or family member, and explain what it means. Then, invite them to randomly quiz you at some point today to see if you can remember the verse.

PRAY

Thank Jesus for being the way, the truth, and the life, and invite Him to be exactly that at specific places in your life.