KNOWING JESUS

BY GROWING AND GRACE

2 Peter 3:18

■ "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

CCIC BELIEVES THAT;

- ■1. WE ARE CHRIST'S CENTER. Gal. 2:20.
- ■2. LOVE IS OUR BOND. Colossians 3:14.
- ■3. GOSPEL IS OUR MISION. Mark 15:16.

OUR STRUCTURE.

- ■1. TEACH THE WORD OF GOD.
- ■2. TEACH TO PRAY.
- ■3. TEACH TO LOVE GOD AND THE PEOPLE.
- ■4. TEACH HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

TEXT: JOHN 14:1-14

""Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God^[a]; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that 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."

John 14:5-8

- "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 know me, you will 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."

John 14:9-11

■ "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 I do not speak on my own authority. 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 works themselves."

John 14:12-14

■"12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they 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 Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."

GROWING IN GRACE BY TRUSTING GOD AND JESUS.

- I. COMFORT FOR TROUBLED HEARTS. V.1-3
- "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God^[a]; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that 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. "

- 1. HE KNEW THEIR HEARTS WERE TROUBLED.V1."
- "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God[a]; believe also in me.
- A. The disciples were deeply anxious because Jesus told them that He was going away. John 13:33.
- "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come."

- B. One of them would betray Him. John 13:21
- "After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "Very truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me."
- C. Peter-their leader would deny Him. John 13:38.
- "Then Jesus answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!"

- *They felt like The Messiah and His kingdom seemed uncertain.
- *Jesus saw their fear and confusion.

- 2. THEIR FAITH NEEDED TO SHIFT FROM SIGHT TO TRUST. V.1b."Believe in God; believe also in me"
- A. Up to this point, they walked by sight, because Jesus was physically with them.
- B. Soon, they would need to walk by faith. Trusting Jesus through unseen.
- That's why He said, believe in God believe also in me.

- C. Jesus calls them to place the same trust they had in the Farther, and in Him.
- THIS WAS BOTH A COMFORT AND A REVELATION OF HIS DIVINITY. JESUS IS WORTHY OF THE SAME FAITH AS GOD.
- THE CURE FOR TROUBLED HEART IS TRUSTING GOD AND JESUS.

- 3. HE WAS ABOUT TO SECURE THEIR ETERNAL FUTURE. V2
- "My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?"
- A. He assured them that His departure wasn't abandonment, but preparation.

- ■B. His death and resurrection, and ascension would open the way to the Father's house." I AM THE WAY THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE, "
- ■C. Their present sorrow was part of God's greater plan for eternal joy. He wanted us to see His leaving is not as loss, but as love in action.

- 4. HIS PRESENCE WOULD CONTINUE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT. V16-18.
- "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and 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 [c] in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

- A. Jesus <u>Promised</u> the comforter, (the Holy Spirit) would come. Although He would not be with them physically, He would be with them Spiritually and continually.
- B. Their hearts could rest, knowing His presence would never depart.
- C. Warning; The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him.
- D. Assurance; "But you know him, for he lives with you and will be^[c] in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

- 5. HE WANTED THEM TO ANCHOR THEIR PEACE IN HIM, NOT IN THE WORLD.
- Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27
- A. The World's peace depend on stability and control.
- B. Jesus' peace depends on His presence and promises.

THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES WERE ABOUT TO SHAKE, BUT JESUS HIMSELF WOULD REMAIN THEIR UNSHAKABLE FOUNDATION."

CONCLUSION

- 1. They faced loss, betrayal, and confusion. But Jesus knew their fear.
- 2. They needed to trust Him as God. That's why, He called them to faith.
- 3. His leaving is for our eternal good. That's why, He is preparing heaven.
- 4. His presence would continue in a new way. That's why, He would send the Holy Spirit.
- 5. True peace comes from Him, not from the World.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

- 1.When I feel anxious or uncertain, what would it look like to believe Jesus' words, "you believe in God; believe also in Me?
- 2. What am I holding onto that keeps me from resting in the peace of Jesus offers?
- 3. How can the promise of a prepared place and Jesus return give me peace in todays troubles?
- 4. In what ways have I seen Jesus calm my heart before and what does that remind me about His faithfulness now?