

John's Gospel @ CF!

John 14:15-31

Sermon notes – BK

June 25, 2025

WOOHOO – we get one more Sunday in JOHN!

- We will resume in September!
- The – “Revangelized” series begins next week...

The words and actions of Jesus with His disciples in the Upper room so far were like none we had seen before –

The instruction Jesus gives will be of some of the most sustaining words they will ever receive.

John 14:1

“Let not your hearts be troubled.”

There is an amazing progression we see in chapter 14...

- It starts with Jesus directing the disciples to *believe in God and in Him in the same way*
- Thomas's questioning Jesus confirms that they are to believe that Jesus is The way, The truth, and The life... The ONLY way to the Father.
- With Phillip's statement, *“Show us the Father...”* – Jesus brings it to a place of knowing Him.
 - *Not just knowing about Him...*
 - Ginosko - A knowing that only comes through close, intimate relationship
 - Jesus wasn't good with "seeing" He was going much deeper to knowing

Last time in John we hit on that all of this flows through the process of...

Knowing drives believing; believing is seen in doing.

I told of the time I went rock climbing with my friend John...

- **Knowing** I was climbing with John gave me...
- **Belief** I could do it and it led me to
- **Do** things I would never have even tried on my own!

Knowing Jesus in this way, leads to a place of doing...

- ***“These things I do you will do also...” 14:12***
- ***“If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.” 14:14***

THIS is what Jesus was teaching His disciples in this amazing place...

(For more of this message - go back a couple weeks ago, to June 15)...

All of this *could* feel very overwhelming to the Disciples...

We have the advantage of perspective they did not have

- **We know** what is about to happen
- **We understand much more** in the light we see with

Jesus knows the Holy Spirit is about to come, and He will change everything.

This is something Jesus adds in now, undergirding it all...

Questions the Disciples may have, like...

- *How do we really Know?*
- *What will Believing look like going forward?*
- *We are going to Do... what?!*

This leads into Jesus's teaching of what relationship looks like from here on out...

Let's read on and finish this chapter...

Building on... Knowing – Believing – Doing...

There is a whole lot here, but...

- *Listen for some common themes and take note*
- *Pay attention to what Jesus is assuring them with, knowing the journey that is ahead of them...*

John 14:15-31

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.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.

There is a whole lot here...

- Worthy for all of us to do a great deep-dive
- My “job” is to show you where the “meat” is and help you to get to it.
- My prayer is that as we dig, you will find the areas you need to dig deeper into for yourself.

With all that Jesus said here, we will focus on three things that are here in the text

I believe these to be fundamental to the ministry of the disciples going forward – and for us today...

Three main points Jesus is communicating...

- 1) Love is seen in obedience
- 2) The Holy Spirit will lead us through it all
- 3) The gift of His peace guides in everything

1) Love is seen in obedience

John 14:15

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

What are His commands?

- To perform a task?
- To fulfil a quota?
- To spend a specific time in study or prayer?
- To give x% of your income?
- To mow your neighbor's lawn every week?
- I don't think ANY of these!

There ARE many commands Jesus gives in the course of His ministry...

- Some list up to 50, if you include commands like
 - Repent (Matt. 4:17)
 - Follow me (Matt. 4:19)
 - Love your enemies (Matt. 5:44)...
 - There are at least 18 commandments Jesus gives in Matt. 5-7 (The Sermon on the Mount) alone.

SO, WHAT ARE the commandments is Jesus referring to?

Maybe all of it, by implication...

- BUT likely it had more to do with what He had been teaching and demonstrating in the Upper Room.

In the immediate context, there are three main commands Jesus gives...

- 1) He commanded them to wash one another's feet, (serving as He served them) - 13:14-15, 17**
- 2) He commanded them to love one another (just as He loved them) - 13:34**
- 3) He commanded them to believe in God, (and in Himself in the same way) - 14:1**

John 14:15

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

I do not believe Jesus is saying, "Doing the things I say MAKE Me love you..."

It is more like Jesus is saying, "The evidence of you loving Me will be seen in following (obeying) what I command."

Do you see the difference?

Jesus repeats this truth three more times in these verses

John 14:21

Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me.

John 14:23a

Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word

Jesus states the same thing, but from the other direction...

John 14:24a

“Whoever does not love me does not keep my words...”

AND in all three of these instances, there is a response from the Father...

- The **Father will give a Helper** (we will get to this in a bit)
- The OTHER TWO have the **response of the Father in love toward those** who keep Jesus' commandments.

John later writes in his first letter –

1 John 5:1-3

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.

Was this instruction ONLY for the Disciples? No.

So, how is it evident that we love Jesus?

It is seen in our lifestyle...

How does this work?

- Because we love Jesus, we trust Jesus
- Because we trust Jesus, we listen to His words
- Because we Trust Jesus's words (commands), we choose to put them into practice.

We DO these things, not because we are better than anyone else... we DO THEM because we LOVE Jesus!

Does that make sense?

Have you ever seen the, “***Christians are not perfect, just forgiven***” –bumper sticker?



NOT my favorite bumper sticker!

While it is TRUE we make mistakes, there

MAYBE BETTER...

“Christians are perfect, but Jesus IS!”

Jesus leads us in this example...

John 14:31

but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.

What happens if we do not do it perfectly? Are we out?
No!

1 John 2:1

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

Jesus forgives!

We who love Him seek for His forgiveness!

Is there anyone who needs to renew their love for Jesus today?

(PRAY?)

The struggle against sin (of various kinds) is why point 2 is so important for us!

2) The Holy Spirit will lead us through it all

John 14:16-17

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.

Later, Jesus adds –

John 14:26

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.

Verse 16 says, ***“...another Helper...”***

“another” means “another of the same kind”

- Jesus has been there for them to help them, lead them, etc...
- NOW, in the same way... the Holy Spirit will do that!

Verse 26 says, ***“...the Helper, the Holy Spirit...”***

Other translations use –

- Counselor
- Advocate
- Encourager

They all come from the same Greek word...

The Greek word is “*Paraklētos*”

Here in John 14:16, 26, (as well as 15:26 and 16:7)

- ***These all refer to HS as the one who helps,***
- ***“...to lead them to a deeper knowledge of gospel truth, and to give them the divine strength needed to enable them to undergo trials and persecutions on behalf of the divine kingdom.”***

In 1 John 2:1b, “*But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*”

Here - ***“Paraklētos” is more of an advocate/defense attorney***

The beauty is that BOTH are true –

- Holy Spirit helps, leads, guides**
- Jesus advocates for us**

BOTH were sent by God to lead us into full relationship with Him.

Holy Spirit was coming...

Jesus will say later, it will be for their benefit HS comes...

WHY?

Jesus was with them – HS will be IN them

- **The HS of God is not limited by space and time as Jesus (when on the earth) was**
- **HS is IN us... God’s Spirit IN us!**
 - **To lead**
 - **To convict of sin**
 - **To guides us through life**
 - **To comfort us in our struggles**
 - **To compel us to obey**
 - **To remind us who we are**

DO any of you need that today?

Have you taken time to hear what the Lord is saying to you?

There has been much confusion over the Holy Spirit.

This is pretty straight forward here though, isn't it?

Where does the confusion come from?

A place where people can control and manipulate others.

The Enemy would like nothing more than for there to be MAJOR confusion...

HS is the presence of GOD!

The Enemy does NOT LIKE THAT!

EXP...

SO... if you are confused about what is of God or not... TEST IT! –

- Is the focus on the glory of God?
- Is it consistent with the word of God?
- Does it lead to the elevation of a teaching or a teacher to an inappropriate place?

Is there anyone who needs to hear the Holy Spirit today?

HE is your helper – your encourager... your advocate!

(PRAY?)

1) Love is seen in obedience

2) The Holy Spirit will lead us through it all

3) The gift of His peace guides in everything

John 14:27

“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.”

There are many things in this teaching that will bring the Disciples (and us) peace –

- **We are not alone**, we have the Holy Spirit – vs.16-17,26
 - He is **with us**
 - He is **IN us**
- We are **not left as orphans** – we HAVE a Father! – v.18
- **Jesus lives!** – v. 19b
- We are **loved by the Father** – vs. 21b, 23b,
- **He will/does dwell in us** – v. 23b, “...*make our home with him.*”
- **HS will remind us** what Jesus has taught – v. 26
- **Jesus told the Disciples ahead of time...** so that when it happened, **they would see He is still in control** - v. 29

ALL of these reasons bring peace...

ON TOP of that, Jesus GIVES THEM His peace!

What did Isaiah prophesy of Jesus?

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born,

to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

and his name shall be called

***Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.***

Since Jesus IS the Prince of peace... He can do whatever He wants with it!

He left His peace with His disciples... and GAVE them His peace!

Is there anyone who needs THIS peace today?

HE IS the price of peace!!

(PRAY?)

There is much in this passage in John today...

I pray...

- 1) Your love for Jesus is seen in your obedience to Him**
- 2) The Holy Spirit will lead you through it all**
- 3) The gift of His peace guides you in everything**

PAUSE...

We are the most blessed – I hope you see that...

- We have an invitation and the gift of salvation extended to us
- We have the privilege to receive the salvation in full - with nothing we can do on our side to earn it.
- We have been given an example how to walk in this salvation in Jesus.
- We have a partner to carry us in the midst of and through all of life, this process of salvation,
- We have a wonderful place, waiting for us in Heaven when salvation is accomplished.
- All of this is provided for by Jesus who accomplished everything necessary, for the absolute accomplishment of "It is finished."