

## Following and Embracing the Way

### 14:1-14

**vs.1**, Don't let your heart be troubled.  
How are we able to embrace this reality?  
Through belief in God.  
Through belief in Jesus.

How do we allow our hearts to be calmed?

**vs. 2**, In my Father's house

- The betrayal, crucifixion, and exaltation of Jesus is what makes it possible for us to dwell with God.
- Jesus will be able to be present with the Father and with the disciples.

The image shifts to a single person. 2:21, he was speaking about the temple of his body.

In chapter 14 the concept extends beyond one person to a group of people in a household or familial relationship.

My father's house is not intended to mean "heaven".  
Its intention is God's household or family!

Chapters 14 and 15 give us the clues for interpretation.  
To dwell or dwelling all describe a variety of interpersonal relationships between the Father, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and believers (14:10, 17, 23, 25).

Look at the familial language.

13:33, little children  
1:12, he have them the right to be children of God  
14:18, I will not leave you as orphans  
16:21, the image of a woman giving birth

There are many rooms...

We are Jesus people!

- We are a community of connective tissue.
- We are the family of God.
- We are the living temple of God's indwelling presence!

John is revealing the radical new interpretation of the household of God.

From temple to a community of Jesus people.

**vs. 4-5**, You know the way to where I am going.

Love / Sacrifice / Serve

Remember: What is the example of Jesus concerning complete love?

**vs, 6**, The exclusivity of Jesus.

I am the way / I am the truth / I am the life

This is the 6th "I am" statement in the gospel of John.

I am the bread of life (6:35).  
I am the light of the world (8:12).  
I am the gate for the sheep (10:7).  
I am the good shepherd (10:11).  
I am the resurrection and the life (11:25).

“If you dethrone Jesus, you enthrone something, or someone, else instead.” ~ N.T. Wright

The triune God desired genuine, honest, relationship with Adam and with Eve.

- The way of Jesus is not the way of the arrogant. Power and influence are not the goal.
- The way of Jesus is self sacrifice. Follow my example.
- The upside down reality of the kingdom is not looking for warriors it is looking for servants.
- The mission of the church is to follow Jesus. Arrogance is not part of the mission.

To see Jesus is to see the Father. Jesus is God in flesh!

To know Jesus is to know the one in whom the life of the Father is found.

Is the gospel good news?

Is the message of Jesus earth shattering?

Is wholeness possible by the power of the Holy Spirit?

If any of these questions are not answered in the affirmative we have a real problem concerning the words of Jesus!

He was the Messiah - the word made flesh, God incarnate!

**vs. 12,** The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do.

What works is Jesus referring to?

- Speaking truth and wholeness into the Samaritan woman (4:28-29).
- Healing the man (enabling him to walk) by the Pool of Bethesda (5:8-9).
- Healing of the man born blind (9:6-7),
- Many other miracles of Jesus (10:25).
- Raising Lazarus from the dead (11:43-44).
- Jesus' teaching (14:10).

Genuine belief is overflowing with action!

You will even participate in and observe greater (more impressive) things!

What does this mean?

Greater in quality?

Greater in quantity?

Is that even the point?

Key to understanding Jesus' words.

What did Jesus say about John the Baptist?

**Matthew 11:11** “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one greater than John the Baptist has appeared, but the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

The works of the disciples are greater than Jesus because they have the privilege of living, teaching, and sharing the post resurrection completed work of Christ.

**Wholeness** in following the example of Jesus

**vs. 13,** In the name of Jesus

That the Father may be glorified in the Son.

**vs. 14,** When we are on the same page, nothing is impossible. I will do it.