

JOHN 14:12–24 (NIV)
Help Is on the Way

Welcome and Prayer

Jesus is still in the upper room with His disciples on the night before His crucifixion. In John 14:1–11, He comforted them, spoke of the Father's house, and declared, "I am the way and the truth and the life." Now in verses 12–24, Jesus continues preparing them for His departure and assures them that they will not be left alone.

John 14:12–14

> ***"Whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing… and they will do even greater things than these… You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."***

Explanation: Jesus points His disciples forward. Because He is going to the Father, His work will continue through those who believe in Him. The 'greater works' point especially to the spread of the gospel after Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension. Praying in Jesus' name is not a formula for getting our own way; it is praying in submission to His will so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Supporting Verses

- **Acts 2:41** — About three thousand were added that day.
- **1 John 5:14** — We have confidence when we ask according to His will.

John 14:15–17

> ***"If you love me, keep my commands… He will give you another Advocate… the Spirit of truth."***

Explanation: Love for Jesus is revealed in obedience. Obedience does not earn salvation; it is the response of a heart changed by grace. Jesus promises 'another Advocate'—the Holy Spirit—who will help, guide, and remain with believers forever. The Spirit is not only with God's people, but will dwell in them.

Supporting Verses

- **Galatians 3:2** — The Spirit is received by faith, not by works of the law.
- **Ezekiel 36:26–27** — God promises a new heart and His Spirit within His people.

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John 14:18–21

> ***"I will not leave you as orphans… Because I live, you also will live."***

Explanation: Jesus reassures His disciples that His departure is not abandonment. They will see Him again in His resurrection, and because He lives they also have the promise of life. Their hope rests not in their own strength, but in the living Christ. In time they will understand more fully their union with Him and His relationship with the Father.

Supporting Verses

- **1 Corinthians 15:20–22** — Christ's resurrection guarantees life for those who belong to Him.
- **John 2:19–22** — The disciples later understood Jesus' words after His resurrection.

John 14:22–24

> ***"Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching… we will come to them and make our home with them."***

Explanation: Jesus answers Judas (not Judas Iscariot) by pointing to a personal relationship with those who love Him. Knowing Christ is not merely seeing evidence; it involves a heart that receives Him and walks in obedience. God does not dwell with His people only in public worship settings, but in everyday life as believers walk with Him.

Supporting Verses

- **1 John 2:3–6** — Knowing Christ is seen in obedience and walking as He walked.

Application — Four Things to Remember

1. **Be willing to let God use you.**
   - Jesus used ordinary men to accomplish extraordinary things.
2. **Let God's Word direct your decisions.**
   - The Holy Spirit never leads contrary to God's Word.
3. **Demonstrate your love through obedience.**
   - Take one practical step of obedience this week.
4. **Stop relying on your own strength.**
   - Bring your needs to the Lord and depend on His help.

Reflection Questions

1. **Fill in the blank:** "If you love me, keep my _____." (John 14:15)
2. **Fill in the blank:** Jesus promised another _____ to be with His disciples forever. (John 14:16)
3. **Challenging Question:** What situation are you trying to handle in your own strength, and how can you intentionally depend on the Holy Spirit this week?

Closing Thought: *Jesus knew His disciples could not accomplish His calling in their own strength, so He promised them the Holy Spirit. For the disciples, help was on the way. For believers today, our Helper is already here.*