

On Love and Sorrow– John 16:16-33 March 19, 2023

With these words, Jesus finished teaching his disciples. Once these were spoken, there was time for a short prayer and then his sufferings would begin. What would he say? Listen in as Lewis Roderick takes us to John 16: 16-33, as we hear Jesus final message to his disciples.

For personal reflection/community discussion

Read – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

Examine – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

Apply - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- Consider the way Jesus seeks to bring comfort despite the horrors he's facing. What does this tell you about his love for his church?
- Do you ever doubt the Father's love? Consider v.27 at first glance it looks as if the Father loves us *because* we love Jesus. How does v.28, and other scriptures (especially John 3: 16) say the opposite? Why is this so important?
- Do you meditate on our future glory? What tangible difference might doing so make to your life? Turn to 2 Corinthians 3 and 4. In your own words, what does Paul say about our coming joy and present sufferings?

As with all these questions - fight to let them sink from your head to your heart. Allow your understanding to lead to praise.