



### Longing for the Heartbeat of Jesus John 13:21-30

#### **We are disciples that Jesus loves!**

Verses 21-23:

##### **Text Message:**

- <sup>23</sup> One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus side [e]...
- Look at the footnote, which gives this indicates the literal Greek reads, “in the bosom of Jesus.”
- Specifically, the Greek word *κολπος* (*kolpos*) refers to the front of the body between the arms (i.e. where the heart is!).
- This disciple isn’t described as one whom Jesus loved because he was at Jesus’ side; he was at Jesus’ side because he was one whom Jesus loved!
- We don’t stay connected to Jesus to be loved by Jesus; we stay close to Jesus because we are loved by Jesus!
- There is no greater identity that we can enjoy than that of a disciple that Jesus loves:
  - 1) It is the most precious identity:  
knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ... 1 Peter 1:18-19
  - 2) It is the most permanent identity.  
Any identity rooted in earthly things can and will perish!

#### **We can lean back “against” Jesus!**

<sup>25</sup> So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, “Lord, who is it?”

##### **Text Message:**

- We will first look at this physically, and then apply a principle of this spiritually to our lives.
- The words “against Jesus” are much longer and richer in the original language. The Greek reads:  
*επι το στηθος του Ιησου* (*epi to stethos tou Iasou*) and mean literally “on/upon the chest/breast/bosom of Jesus.”
- Notice the Greek word *στηθος* (*stethos*), which is translated “chest, breast, or bosom.
- Any guess what English word we get from this?
- This description is much more intimate than the former:  
*κολπος* (*kolpos*) - the chest area as physical and external.  
*στηθος* (*stethos*) – the chest area as spiritual and intimate.
- It’s as if John is listening to the very heart of Jesus!
- We can practice spiritually what John experienced physically; a turning to the heart of Jesus spiritually and intimately!
- May we be loved disciples who long for Jesus’ heartbeat!

#### **We can practice turning to Jesus wherever and whenever!**

<sup>25</sup> So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, “Lord, who is it?”

##### **Text Message:**

- Think again of John leaning “against” Jesus, or the imagery of one who listens to the heart through a stethoscope...
- Both envision intentional and concentrated focus on the heart!
- We do this in the “wherever and whenever” moments of life when we turn to Jesus to whisper words of thanksgiving, adoration, prayers, questions (i.e. John here), share our heart, etc.; just like we would an intimate friend (Proverbs 18:24).
- Think about the “whenever and wherever” moments of your life this coming week and put a reminder to turn to Jesus in these moments! Make it a holy habit!