- The context: Celebrating Passover meal ... Jesus has been alluding to His death - 12:23, 27, 32-34 ... During meal Jesus says one of them will betray Him - 13:21 ... After Judas leaves, Jesus again says 13:33 - in connection with Him being glorified, and the Father being glorified through Him ... Surely, the disciples are now asking themselves questions internally - where's Judas; what exactly is happening; where's Jesus going, and why is He leaving ...
- Peter interrupts Jesus - 13:36 ... In this exchange, I take Peter as being sincere, even in 13:37 ... He doesn't fully understand the situation, nor what he's saying, but his desire and willingness to follow Jesus wherever should be heard as words from a disciple who personally knows his Master, who is deeply concerned about Him, who doesn't want to see things unfold as described, and who's ready to go the distance for the One he loves ... I take Jesus as seeing this, and not rebuking Peter, but helping him to better understand what's about to unfold ...
- Teaching of Jesus in ch14-16 is bracketed by similar truth - 14:1 and 16:33 ... When Jesus says, 14:1, what kind of belief is He referring to ... Not generic ... Not abstract ... Not subjective ... Belief tested and experienced; belief that shapes who a person is, how they live, how they endure ... Objective faith rooted in the fullness of God, and all that God has said and promised and achieved ... Has God ever failed, lied, or broken a promise? ... Who stands before them right now ... The Father has proven Himself faithful to be the object of your faith. And so have I ... How?
- By what He has said and what He has done, all revealing the Father ... Luk24:26-27, 44-49 (2Cor1:20, Heb1:1-3) ... 14:1 - Jesus is saying, just as you can trust the words and promises of My Father, so you can trust Me, because I am the embodiment and realization of every word and promise ... Jesus leaving them is not an indication that He's now abandoning them ... He's leaving, but He's not ... 14:3, 18, 23, 26-27 ... 1 Pet1:8
- Now, Thomas interrupts Jesus - $\underline{\underline{14: 5}}$... How honest are the disciples and how kind is Jesus with their honesty ... Don't ever think He'll treat you any less than them ... When we're stressed and overwhelmed and troubled by life, our honesty spills out ... He wants to hear it ... Don't let those be the only times you're honest with Him ... Thomas restated: Jesus, you say you're going to the Father, but where is that? How do we get to where the Father is? ...
- 14:6 ... How do you get to where the Father is, Thomas? Only by Me ... I am the Way to the Father - I am the Truth to the Father - I am the Life to the Father ... No one comes to the Father except through Me ... No other way, no other truth, no other life, but through Me ...
- He is going away to establish and secure the Way to the Father ... Thus, He's "preparing a place" for them ... His death and resurrection and ascension open the Way to the Father ... No other sacrifice is worthy ... No other provision sufficient ... Only in entering through Jesus by faith, do we enter the Father's presence ... You are reconciled, justified, adopted, sanctified, and indwelt with the fullness of God ... You're able to hear Him, see Him, know Him, follow Him, enjoy Him, and be with Him - forever ...
- Because Jesus is the Way to the Father, He is the Truth of God and the Life from God ... Jesus embodies God's Truth, and He imparts God's Life ... By His life does He sustain us ... By His truth does He lead us ... Thus, the Way is marked by the Truth and the Life of Jesus Christ ... And every person who walks upon the Way is also marked by the Truth and the Life of Jesus Christ ... No other way, or truth, or life, but His
- Jesus alone perfectly represents the Father before us, and He perfectly represents us before the Father ... Eph2:6 $\rightarrow$ 14:3 (present reality, and a future hope), $\underline{\underline{23}}$... To know Jesus is to know the Father, to see Jesus is to see the Father, to have Jesus live in you is to have the Father live in you - $7,9,11,23$

