

Lesson 31: The Final Instruction

Objective: To learn that when we see Jesus, we see God.

Background: Jesus entered Jerusalem on Sunday and dies the following Friday. He spent the first three days (Sunday to Wednesday and Thursday) teaching the crowd in the temple and the last two days (Wednesday and Thursday) teaching the disciples alone. We don't know Jesus' activities on Wednesday because the Gospel writers didn't tell us, but they wrote in detail Jesus' last hours between Passover Thursday evening, and the crucifixion (death on the Cross), Friday noon.

Instructions: Read John 13-16, one chapter a day, as if you are listening to Jesus.

Let's Think: Always read over the verses listed at the end of each question.

Thursday evening at the Passover meal, Judas found out that Jesus knew his secret and left the group. Jesus knows the end is near and gives His final teachings to the eleven disciples. The teachings begin in the upper room (John 13:31 to John 14:31) and continue as they pass through the quiet streets of the city and go towards the Garden of Gethsemane (John 15:16). And just before they arrive at the Garden, Jesus speaks to His Father in the hearing of the disciples and the prayer became known as "The High-Priestly Prayer" of Jesus. Let's stop and listen carefully to what Jesus says about:

1. God (Jesus called Him "My Father")

a) How do we know God and know what He is like? (read carefully John 14:7,8,10)

b) Is God a "person" whom we can get to know or is He some sort of "power"? (John 14:21,23) And does He care about us? How? (John 14:16; John 16:27; and John 3:16)

2. Himself (Jesus)

a) What does Jesus say about Himself in John 14:6? If we want to go to heaven, who should we follow? Are there any other ways (roads to heaven)? (Also John 14:1-3; Acts 4:12)

b) Why should we pay attention to Jesus' teachings (words)? (John 14:24; John 15:15; John 17:80)

3. Holy Spirit (also called “The Counselor” and “The Spirit of Truth”)

- a) After Jesus returns to heaven, the Holy Spirit will come to us. What will He do?
(John 14:25,26; John 15:26; John 16:13,14) Why do we pray when we study the Bible?
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- b) How do you know that the Holy Spirit is a “person” not and “it”? Read carefully John 14:26;
John 16:12,13; also Acts 5:3 and Ephesians 4:30
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4. The World (here it stands for evil forces, the enemies of God)

- a) Will the world love those who “follow” Jesus (believers)? If not, why? (John 15:18,19)
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- b) Should we (believers) be afraid of them (the world)? Why? (John 16:23; 1John 4:4)
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5. The Believers

- a) Is there a way to find out whether or not we really, truly love Jesus? And what promise
does Jesus give to those who truly love Him? (John 14:15,21)
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- b) Do we really love Jesus if we don’t like other Christians among us? And could we shine for
Jesus if we (believers) hate and fight one another? (John 13:34,35; John 15:12,17)
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What one particular thing did you learn for the first time as you listened to Jesus for the last
time before He died on the cross? How would it help you? Explain

Let’s Remember; Jesus says, “He who has seen me as seen the Father...” (John 14:9)

