LESSON #11



Bible Study Compiled by **Dr. Lewis R. Woodard, D. Min.**

In this series of study lessons about the Book of John, you can copy and paste each lesson or simply print from your file menu. If you like, you can send each lesson to the address listed at the end of the lesson for grading. May the Lord bless you as you study His Word!

(The King James Bible should be used to answer the questions.) (Be sure to include a self addressed stamped envelope for your lesson to be graded and returned.)

JOHN CHAPTERS 14-16

"THE ONE WHO IS LEAVING"

THE "GOING AWAY" ONE

In John Chapters 14-16 we find Jesus farewell words to His disciples. Again and again He told them that He would be leaving them and that He would be going away (see John 14:2,3,18,28,29; 16:5, 7,16,28). In fact, on this very night Jesus would be arrested and taken away from His disciples (see John 18). On the very next morning He would be put on the cross. Therefore, in John Chapters 14-16 we are reading the LAST WORDS that Jesus spoke to His disciples before He went to the cross.

GOING AWAY BUT COMING AGAIN!

Read John 13:33. Had Jesus already told the disciples that He was going away and that He would only be with them a little longer? ______ The disciples were troubled at the thought of Jesus leaving them (compare John 14:1). These men had been with the Lord for about $3\frac{1}{2}$ years (compare John 14:9). They knew that the Lord's enemies were seeking to kill Him and they were concerned that even their own lives might be in danger (see John 11:7-8,16; 13:37). They did not understand all that was about to happen, but they got the message that somehow they would soon be separated from their Master and they would no longer be with Him. Because of this their hearts were troubled.

Jesus told His disciples that He would be going away. He also told them where He was going! He was going to His **F** ______ **H** ______ (John 14:2). The word "mansions" means "dwelling places" or "abiding places." In John 14:2, does Jesus describe heaven as a real place? _____ Why did Jesus go there (John 14:2)? ______

Remember, on His way to heaven Jesus stopped first at the cross! If Jesus had not died on the cross, would it have been possible for us to have a place in heaven (compare 1 Peter 3:18; 2 Corinthians 5:21)?

It is very difficult to say "Goodbye" to a loved one if you know you will never see this person again. But if you know that this person will someday return, it is much easier to see him (or her) leave! Did Jesus promise that He would return (John 14:3)? ______ Although He would go away, the disciples were comforted to hear that He would come ______ (John 14:3)! Jesus promised to come and take them to heaven! Did He tell them WHEN He would come again? ______ His coming again is CERTAIN because He said "I ______ come again" (John 14:3). The time of His coming is UNCERTAIN because He did not reveal this to us.

The coming of Jesus Christ for His believers to take them to heaven is a very important event. Sometimes it is called the **RAPTURE** (the "catching up" or taking up of believers) and we learn more about this event in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-53. It is important to realize that Jesus did not promise to return and take all men to heaven. The promise of His coming again is only for those who **B**______(John 14:1)! Is His promise *for you*?

THE WAY TO GOD

Jesus was telling His disciples about heaven and the way to get to heaven. Did Thomas understand what Jesus was saying (John 14: 4-5)? _______ Jesus said, "no man cometh unto the _______ but by _____" (John 14:6). Jesus is the only way to God! There are actually two roads that men are walking 1) on--a wrong road and 2) a right road (see Matthew 7:13-14). Which road are you on?

If a person truly knows Christ, then who else do they know (John 14:7)? The best way to get to know the Father is to get to know the Son! Philip did not really understand what Jesus was saying. He said, "Lord, ______ us the ______ and it sufficient us" (John 14:8).

Circle the answer that best describes what Jesus told Philip in John 14:9:

a. Philip, I am not going to show you the Father.

b. Philip, tomorrow you will see a great heavenly vision and a blazing light.

This is when you will be shown the Father!

c. Philip, you have already been shown the Father!

d. Philip, you cannot see the Father because He is invisible!

Jesus Christ is the One who REVEALS and MAKES KNOWN God the Father. Jesus said, "He that hath ______Me hath seen the ______(John 14:9). No mere man could ever make such a statement! Jesus was saying this: "If you really want to see God then look at Me and get to know Me! I am the One who makes the invisible God visible" (compare John 1:18). In Colossians 1:15 we learn that Jesus Christ is the ______ of the invisible God. Jesus Christ is the IMAGE of God. As we look at the IMAGE we can learn what God is really like. Jesus Christ perfectly reflected God the Father just as an IMAGE in a mirror reflects the person who is standing before it!

Notice that in John 14:13-14 Jesus says that those who pray to the Father must ASK IN MY ______. This means that the only reason we can pray is because of Jesus' Name (who He is and what He has done for us). When we pray. "in Jesus' Name" this is not some kind of magical formula that we tack on to the end of our prayers. These words should remind us that we are coming to God the Father through Jesus Christ and that we are expecting God to answer our prayers not because of us but because of His Son!

HOW TO LOVE GOD

OBEDIENCE is the only real way we can show our love for the Savior. If we really love Jesus we will do what He tells us to do!

According to John 14:21, who is the person who loves Jesus?_____

If a person really loves Jesus, what will he do (John 14:23)?______ In John 14:24 Jesus talks about the person who does not love Jesus: "He that loveth me ______keepeth not my ______." There is only one way to show that we really love Jesus. We must obey His Word and do what He tells us to do!

In the Old Testament we find the very same thing. LOVING GOD and KEEPING GOD'S COMMANDS are like twins. They are always found together. For example, see Exodus 20:6-"And showing mercy unto thousands of them that _______ Me, and ______ My ______." See also Deuteronomy 5:10; 7:9; 10:12; 11:1; 13:3-4; 30:16; 30:20; etc. It is not enough to say "I LOVE YOU." It is not enough to sing "MY JESUS I LOVE THEE." We must show that we love God by our obedience.

THE COMING COMFORTER

Jesus was going away. Because of this the disciples were filled with sorrow (John 16:6), but the Lord had good news for them! Even though He was leaving, another Person was coming who would be with them forever! Jesus called this Person the C_____ (John 14:16). "Cheer up disciples! I am leaving but the Comforter is coming!" One will go but Another will come!

The word Comforter means "one called alongside to help, a Helper, a Comforter, One who helps and encourages." In John 14:26 we learn WHO this Comforter is: "But the ______

who is the _______." For several years Jesus Himself had been the constant Companion of the disciples. He was right there at their side to help them and encourage them and comfort them and teach them. Finally, however, Jesus told the disciples that He would be leaving them. The disciples must have thought, "Our Companion and our Friend and our Helper will no longer be with us. We will be left alone!" But Jesus had good news for these disciples! Another Companion and another Comforter would come to be with them! Jesus would leave them, but Someone just like Jesus would come to be with them! How long would the Comforter stay with the disciples (John 14:16)? ______

Throughout these three chapters (John 14-16) Jesus speaks of the **coming Comforter** again and again. When the Comforter (Holy Spirit) comes, where will He live (see the last 5 words in John 14:17)? Will the world (unsaved people) be able to receive the Holy Spirit (John 14:17)? _____ The only ones who receive the Holy Spirit are those who on Jesus Christ (John 7:37-39)!

When would the Holy Spirit be given? When would the Comforter come? When would the Father send the Spirit (John 14:26)? Jesus said, "AT THAT DAY ye shall know that I am in my Father and ye _____ Me and I _____ you" (John 14:20). Jesus spoke these words on the evening before He went to the cross. After His crucifixion He rose again on the third day. After His resurrection He was seen by His followers for a period of ______ days (Acts 1:3) and then He was T______ up into heaven (see Acts 1:9). Before He returned to heaven Jesus told His disciples to WAIT for the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4 and Luke 24:49). This was the promise that the Father would send the Holy Spirit. Finally, 10 days after Jesus was taken up into heaven and 50 days after the resurrection, the Holy Spirit came! You can read about this great event in Acts chapter 2. The Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost. The COMFORTER came to be with the disciples FOREVER! God the Holy Spirit lives in the heart of every believer (1 Corinthians 6:19 and Romans 8:9)!

THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES

God wants His	believers to be FRI	JITFUL! He wants M	fruit (John 15:2) and He wants
M	_ fruit (John 15:8). V	What kind of fruit was Jesu	s talking about? Was He talking about apples or
grapes or water	melons? In Galatian	ns 5:22 we are told that the	of the Spirit is
1)	2)	3)	_ (just write down the first three). In John 15:9-10
what fruit is bei	ng considered? L_	In John 15:11 and John	16:20,22 what fruit is being considered? J
In John 14:27 at	nd 16:33 what fruit	is being considered? P	Is this the same kind of fruit that we read
about in Galatia	ins 5:22?	The Comforter was sent to j	produce this kind of fruit in believers! Let us now
consider the fruit of the Spirit which is <i>LOVE</i> :			

THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL

Jesus gave His disciples a very important command in John 15:12: "This is my ______, that ye ______ one another, as have loved you." We have already studied this command in John 13:34-35 (see LESSON 9 of these studies). In John 15:13 Jesus describes the greatest kind of human love: "Greater hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his _____."

GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS!

The greatest love a man can ever have is to lay down his life for his friend (compare Romans 5:7), but Christ did something far greater than this. Jesus laid down His life for those who were His ENEMIES! In Romans chapter 5 we learn what we once were:

Romans 5:6 says that we were S

Jesus did not lay down His life for His friends, He laid down His life for UNGODLY SINNERS who were HIS ENEMIES! See Romans 5:8: "But God commendeth (showed) His _______ toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ _______ for _____ "We might call this CALVARY LOVE, and it is the greatest love of all! And because Jesus died for us and took care of the problem of SIN, Jesus no longer calls us His ENEMIES, but He calls us His ______ (John 15:15)! Those who were once at war with God can now be at peace with God (Romans 5:1,10-11)! Jesus tells His disciples to love others with this same kind of love (John 15:12,17)! How can we love others in this way? It is impossible apart from the Holy Spirit! But remember, the fruit of the Spirit is L______ (Galatians 5:22). Without Christ we cannot do it (John 15:5) but with Him we can!

THE BELIEVER AND THE WORLD

Jesus Christ was never popular with the world. As we have studied through John's Gospel we have seen again and again how people rejected Christ and rejected His teaching and refused to come to Him and refused to believe on Him (see John 3:19-20; 5:40). He had many enemies everywhere He went. Finally the world showed its hatred for Christ by arresting Him and mocking Him and nailing Him to a cross. That is what the world thinks of the One who came to save them!

As long as Jesus was in the world, He was the target of the world's hatred. With Jesus gone, the shots would now be fired at Jesus' followers who were still in the world. Jesus wanted to warn His disciples about how the world would treat them!

How would the world treat the disciples (John 15:18-19)?_____

If they persecuted Jesus, would they also persecute those who follow Jesus (John 15:20)? _____ Those who really love the Lord should not be surprised to be treated in the same way that Jesus was treated! In 1 John 3:13 we read, "Marvel not (don't be surprised), my brethren, if the _____ you." If they hated Jesus, why should they love you? If they treated Jesus poorly, why should they treat you well?

COMING PERSECUTION

The world's hatred for Christ's disciples would express itself in persecution. Jesus wanted His disciples to know about the difficulties they would face. He wanted to tell them these things before they ever happened (see John 16:4). What are two things that Jesus predicted would happen to His followers (John 16:2)?

1._____

JESUS GOES BUT THE COMFORTER COMES

When Jesus announced that He would be going away (John 16:5), were the disciples GLAD, SAD or MAD (John 16:6)? _____ They were filled with sorrow, but this is because they did not understand. They did not understand that it was to their ADVANTAGE that Jesus would go away (John 16:7). Jesus must GO AWAY so that the ______ can come (John 16:7). This verse also tells us that Jesus Christ would SEND this Holy Spirit. Who else sent the Comforter (John 14:26)? ______ (*Note*: In Church History there was a great argument about whether the Father or the Son sent the Holy Spirit. The answer is simple: **BOTH**).

When the Holy Spirit would come He would have a ministry not only to believers but also to the world: "And when He is come (on the day of Pentecost), He will reprove (convict or convince) the world of 1) _____ and of 2) _____ and of 3) _____ (John 16:8). The word "reprove" means "convict" and it refers to a person who is brought before a court and proved to be guilty. The Holy Spirit came to earth on the day of Pentecost (Acts chapter 2), lived in the hearts of believers and convicted the world of three things:

1) *SIN*--What great sin is mentioned in John 16:9?

The more people see Christ living in the believers by the power of the Holy Spirit, the more they will have to face up to this important question: AM I GOING TO BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST AS THESE PEOPLE HAVE DONE OR AM I GOING TO REJECT JESUS CHRIST?

2) *RIGHTEOUSNESS*-- Can people see the righteous Christ today (John16:10)? _____ Jesus Christ is in heaven and cannot be seen. But Christ's body (the Church, which is made up of all true believers) is on the earth and can be seen by men!

As the Holy Spirit works in our lives we will live more and more in a RIGHTEOUS way (living right, thinking right, acting right, speaking right and being right--see Titus 2:12) and the unsaved people around us will begin to realize how UNRIGHTEOUS they are! No man is righteous in himself (Romans 3:10). The righteousness that every man needs is found only in Jesus Christ!

3) JUDGMENT -- According to John 16:11, who was judged when Jesus died on the cross?

Satan was proven to be guilty at Calvary. His execution and punishment is yet future (Matthew 25: 41). Those who reject Jesus Christ will end up in hell with the devil (Matthew 25:41). Believers need to live in such a way that the unsaved will see that there is a real Savior who can rescue men from a real hell! God's genuine heart's desire for all men is that they might be **S**______ and come to a full knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4 and see 2 Peter 3:9). In contrast to this is the devil who does not want people to **B**______ and be **S**______ (Luke 8:12). Remember, if you are a saved person the Holy Spirit wants to use your life in proving and convincing other people that they are guilty and need to be saved too! The Holy Spirit wants Jesus Christ to get all the attention!

FAREWELL WORDS

Jesus spoke again of His soon departure (John 16:16), but did the disciples understand His words (John 16:17-18)? _____Once again Jesus needed to comfort His disciples. He told them that there would be a time of great weeping and sorrow but this would be followed by a time of great joy (John 16:20-22). At the crucifixion and burial of Christ the disciples would weep and lament and be sorrowful, but the world would ______ (John 16:20). The world will finally think that they have gotten rid of Jesus Christ! But their rejoicing would not last for very long! Soon the disciples would rejoice at the RESURRECTION of Christ! Soon thereafter the whole world would hear the news that the Savior is alive (compare Acts 4:1-2). The sorrow that the disciples would have would not last for long, but would the JOY last for long (John 16:22)? _____

Jesus had already predicted that Judas would betray Him and that Peter would deny Him (John 13). In John 16:32 Jesus predicted that all of the disciples would leave Him and be S______. Did this really happen (Matthew 26:31,56)? ______

In John 16:33 Jesus told His disciples exactly what to expect in the world: "In the world ye shall have _______ (pressure, trouble, difficulty)." Believers are in enemy territory and Jesus never said it would be easy! But believers are not only in the world but they are also IN CHRIST, and Jesus said, "in Me ye might have ______" (John 16:33). **PEACE** in the middle of TROUBLE! **PEACE** in the midst of life's violent storms! The disciples can have peace in the midst of a troubled world! Jesus has won the victory! He has overcome the world!

Please check what you would want (you may check more than one):

Please correct this Bible study____. Please answer my questions which I have enclosed or attached____. Please send me more information about salvation and eternal life____.

To be graded, and returned to you, send completed lesson and self addressed stamped envelope

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