



Sermon Series: John - The Word of Life - Part 46

Message: "This is the Way"

Text: John 14:1-14

Date: 01/08/2023

- ★ John's purpose for writing was to connect people to Jesus! (John 20:30-31)
- ★ John was writing to Jewish Christians being kicked out of their synagogues (John 9:22)

John 14:1-14

- (v1) "troubled" - see John 11:33, 12:27 and 13:21
- (v1) "believe" (present tense, active verb) meaning "to trust" in Jesus
- (v2) "rooms" NIV, 1st Century Greek, "*monai*" [used only 2x in NT: John 14:2 & 14:23]
 - "mansions" KJV, 16th Century Latin, "*mansiones*" = average living space or room
 - **Note:** Jesus and the disciples are in an upper *room*
 - **Meaning:** The Father's house has more than enough space for everyone who chooses to trust in Jesus
- (v2) "Father's house" = the Temple - Ex: John 2:16-17, 49-50; Ezra 6:5; Nehemiah 6:10
 - The Temple is the space between Heaven and Earth because it's the space where God resides
 - Jesus' body = the Temple (John 2:19-21); compare with John 14:11 and 14:20
 - **Jesus has made room for us in Him** - not huge luxurious homes in heaven
- (v2-3) "prepare a place" = Jesus is preparing His body for His upcoming death and resurrection - Jesus needing to "leave" made sense after the resurrection (John 2:22)
- (v5-6) Thomas: "*how can we know the way?*"; Jesus: "*I am the way*"
 - **This is an exclusive claim** - There is no other way to God
- (v9) "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father" - see also John 10:30
- (v6) "the way and the truth and the life" - God's existence doesn't depend on whether people believe in Him or not
 - **Do we live like this is a reality?** Ex: James 5:16
- (v12-14) **Consider This:** "Thinking positive thoughts on behalf of someone else is basically worthless. Offering prayer to Jesus on behalf of someone else is priceless."

- Going Deeper -

For individual or small group study

1. **READ John 13:36 - 14:1.** Have you ever been “troubled” in this way? What were those emotions like and how did you cope with them?
2. **READ the following scriptures and talk about what heaven is like:** Psalm 115:3, Psalm 50:6, Psalm 33:6, Proverbs 8:27, 1 Kings 22:19-23, Acts 7:48-49, Philippians 3:20, 2 Timothy 4:18, Hebrews 11:13-16, 2 Peter 3:3-13, Revelation 3:12, Rev 19:6, Rev 21:1-4.
3. There’s an old 1949 gospel song called *Mansions Over The Hilltop*. Read the lyrics below and discuss what seems biblical (i.e. the Bible teaches it) and not so biblical:

[Chorus] *I've got a mansion; Just over the hilltop; In that bright land; Where we'll never grow old; And someday yonder; We will never more wander; But walk on streets; That are purest gold.*

[Verse 1] *I'm satisfied with just a cottage below; A little silver and a little gold; But in that city where the ransomed will shine; I want a gold one that's silver lined.*

[Verse 2] *Though often tempted tormented and tested; And like the prophet my pillow's a stone; And though I find here no permanent dwelling; I know He'll give me a mansion my own.*

[Verse 3] *Don't think me poor or deserted or lonely; I'm not discouraged I'm heaven bound; I'm just a pilgrim in search of a city; I want a mansion a harp and a crown.*

4. **READ 2 Corinthians 5:1-10.** What is our eternal house (our building from God)? How does the answer to the previous question help us understand “My Father’s house” and “prepare a place for you” a bit more (John 14:1-4)?
5. **READ John 13:36, 14:5, 14:8 and 14:22.** Why do you think John (the author) chose to include questions from Peter, Thomas, Philip and Judas (not Iscariot)? Is there something we can learn from their troubled hearts (14:1) to help us with our own faith journey with Jesus?
6. **What do you think about this quote from Thomas a Kempis about John 14:6?**
“Follow Me: I am the way, and the truth, and the life. Without the way [you can] not go; without the truth [you can] not know; without the life [you can] not live. I am the Way which [you ought] to follow; the Truth which [you ought] to believe; the Life which [you ought] to hope for. I am the Way unchangeable; the Truth infallible; the Life everlasting.”

Recommended Resources

- *NIV Faithlife Illustrated Study Bible*, christianbook.com, <https://bit.ly/3kxieXw>
- “Overview: John 13-21” by Bible Project, search on YouTube