

(1) “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”

(5) Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him.”

(8) Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know Me, Philip? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own authority, but the Father who dwells in Me does His works.

(11) “Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.”

NOTE: In verse 2, the Greek word “*oikia*” is used with the possessive of the Father (i.e., My Father’s *oikia*...). “*Oikia*” is commonly translated as house, home, dwelling, abode, property, household or family. The translator must put it in context with the passage. Here, where the Father is (house, family, etc...), there are many (Gr.) “*nomai*” (abodes, dwellings, mansions). Jesus goes there to prepare (Gr.) “*topon*” (dwelling places, mansions, abodes or seats) for us. The challenge is to use these three terms to make sense of Jesus’ meaning. There are many word-combination possibilities....

Think on these things:

- 1) At the end of Chapter 13, Jesus was troubled, and Judas leaves the Passover meal abruptly. Now Jesus says to His remaining disciples, “Don’t let your heart be troubled.” What does He direct them to think about to overcome their own emotions of concern (v.1)?

**(At all times) Believe in God! Believe also in Jesus! (HE will be our anchor and hope!)**

- 2) Does Jesus indicate that He still plans to leave? What does He say He will be doing for them (v.3)?

Still planning to leave them? **Yes, He will be leaving them.**

What will He do for them? **He says He is leaving to prepare a place for them (us).**

- 3) Jesus says, “Where I go, you know the way.” Thomas responds (v.5), “Lord, we don’t know.... How can we know?” How does Jesus respond to Thomas (vs.6-7)?

**Jesus says HE is the way, and that in knowing Him they also know the way to His Father. From now on, you DO know the way to Him!**

- 4) When you read verses 2 & 6, what is the “real” destination for believers, and what is Jesus’ role?

Destination? **The believer's destination is to be present with the Father where He abides.**

Jesus' role? **Jesus is THE WAY to get into the Father's presence. HE shares God's truth, and He shares God's life --- with believers.**

- 5) V. 6 is a key teaching of Christianity. It also sets us apart from other world religions. Look up these scriptures and explain them as "inclusive" or "exclusive": Exodus 20:1-6; John 3:16 and 10:7-18; Acts 4:10-12; Colossians 3:1-4; Romans 5:1-2, 11; and 1 Timothy 1:15 and 2:3-5. Can you summarize a "big" truth from seeing all these verses?

Inclusive – **God so loved the world that He sent His only Son that "whoever believes" in Him should have eternal life (John 3). Jesus came to save sinners (1 Timothy 1), and God desires all men to be saved (1 Timothy 2).**

Exclusive – **There is only ONE God, not gods (Exodus). Jesus is the ONLY door (WAY) to God, the Good Shepherd; everybody else is a spiritual thief, liar or hireling (John 10). Jesus is the ONLY savior for mankind (Acts). Jesus brings eternal life (Colossians). In Jesus we are justified and reconciled to God, enjoying peace (Romans). Jesus is the lone Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2).**

My summary – **(Personal opinion, hopefully to see that God wants to save the whole world, which is why He sent Jesus to die for us, but God's Salvation is ONLY for believers in Jesus --- no other gods, prophets or world religion founders [all other religions are false].) Christianity is basically EXCLUSIVE: the invitation is to the world's whosoever (everyone); salvation, though, is only available to those who believe in Jesus.** Also, no person can "earn" their way to heaven by good works or money, either; only by receiving God's grace in response to personal faith.

- 6) How do believers "see" the Father (v.9)? **As we come to know Jesus, we are able to both see the Father at work in Him, and to see (know) the Father through Him. (Bottom line, if you want to see, know and understand God, devote yourself to Jesus!)**
- 7) What is Jesus' main point in vs.9-11? **Believers must accept that Jesus and the Father are essentially ONE. To know/understand one is to know/understand the other.**
- 8) Jesus told His disciples that if they had trouble understanding His words (teachings), they should believe in Him based on His works (v.11). Write down some of the miracles you remember.

**Such as: walking on water; raising the dead; healing lepers & the sick; feeding the 5,000, etc...**

- 9) How does v.14 encourage you? V.13 may be a qualifier to prayer. See also James 4:3. Why aren't all of our prayers answered as Jesus promises here in John 14:14?

**What is encouraging is that Jesus promises to answer believers' prayers made in His Name. The requests should glorify the Father through the Son (v.13). James warns that unanswered prayers happen because we are asking for things and actions selfishly for our own reasons, and not to bring God glory (we ask "amiss").**

People and situations I want to pray for this week: