

Lesson February 17: Final Instructions to Disciples

1. Read **John 14:1 - 16:33** and answer:

- Jesus tells his disciples not to be troubled, that he is going away, but why, where, and will he come back?
- What question did Thomas first ask?
- How did Jesus answer?
- What did Thomas ask Jesus to show them?
- How did Jesus reply?
- What evidence did Jesus point out?

Note: Where was the place Jesus was “preparing” for the disciples? In the Jewish culture, families all lived together in a group insula (compound), when a member married an addition was added to the family home so they could all live together. What idea does this give us about heaven?

- Who did Jesus promise to send to them?
- What did Jesus say the one who loves Him would do?
- What will the work of the Holy Spirit be?

Note: When the disciples are concerned about how they will get along when Jesus is gone, But Jesus has made provision for them. Jesus could only be in one place at a time while on earth, but the Holy Spirit can be in all places at all times.

- What was the disciples’ reaction to His going to the Father?

Note: When did the disciples weep because they “saw Him no more?” And when did they rejoice because their “grief was turned into joy?” (To what coming events is he referring?) Consider their reaction at the crucifixion and then at the resurrection!

- Why is he telling them these things now?
- What is the power of the devil over Jesus?
- What does the world have to learn from what is to happen?
- What does Jesus mean by the statement that he is the “true vine?”
- Who are the branches?
- How were the branches “made clean?”
- What are the branches to do?

Note: “Bearing fruit” means to reproduce what the vine produces. Grape vines bear the fruit grapes, and those attached to the vine of Christ must bear more Christians.

- What happens to branches that “do not remain in the vine?”
- What benefits does remaining in Jesus’ love have?
- How does one remain in His love?
- What did Jesus tell his disciples to expect from the world?
- Why did Jesus say they hated him? (15:24)
- What did Jesus say the people would do to the disciples (even thinking that it was a service to God)?

Note: Remember Saul (Paul) thought he was pleasing God by persecuting and killing Christians.

- Why did Jesus say that it was for their good if he went away?
- What will the Holy Spirit convict (prove the world wrong) about ?
- From where do the things the Holy Spirit speaks come?
- Jesus finally speaks plainly about where he is “going”. What does he say? (16:28)

2. Read **John 17:1-26** and answer:

- How did Jesus pray for the Father to “glorify him?”

Note: When did Jesus “give up” the glory he had at the creation of the world? (See **Phil 2:5-7**)

- Think of what all Jesus had to “give up” when he came to earth.
- What did Jesus say that he given the disciples?
- What does Jesus pray for God to do for the disciples?
- For whom else does Jesus pray?
- What does He ask for them?

Note: What should be the distinguishing mark of Christians to show that they are actually following Christ? (For what did Jesus pray?)