



# ENCOUNTERING GOD AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS

WHEN HE WALKED THE EARTH AS A MAN

AND TODAY

JOHN 14



# OVERVIEW- FOCUS ON JOHN 14

- **Transition talk-** preparing his disciples for MAJOR changes and difficult things
  - Context of the word
    - Last supper, to betrayal/denial, unity of trinity, abiding, revelation
- **Trusting God is the alternative to letting your heart be troubled-**
  - and he is trustworthy!
  - **Alternative to orphan-heartedness**
- **Jesus as the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE**
  - The way to go through any transition and any day
- **ENCOUNTERING GOD is KNOWING/EXPERIENCING (living WITH) Father, Son and Holy Spirit as indwelling**

# TRANSITIONS

- Turning points in life
- Often tied to or initiated by a life event
  - e.g., graduation, marriage, birth or death of a loved one, new job, moving, getting laid off, retirement, etc. ... (Global pandemic)
- The event is not the transition- the transition requires
  - A change in role (how see/define self)
  - A change in behavior that is relatively permanent and functionally significant
  - LIFE CHANGING
- Transitions take time and considerable adjustment

# TRANSITION

From living in his presence to  
His presence living in us!

Knowing, abiding, trusting God and indwelling Holy Spirit  
in the midst of great upheaval (and everyday life)  
and knowing/following the WORD (living and written)



# LETTING YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED VS. TRUSTING GOD

- HeartS
  - The importance of community
- Trust as the alternative to a troubled heart- A DECISION
  - Trust vs. mistrust
  - God IS trustworthy: Trusting in God vs. trusting in myself (Orphan-heartedness)

# QUESTIONS OF JESUS' FOLLOWERS- THEN AND NOW

- 1) Thomas- **We don't know here are you going, so how can we know the way?**
  - (Where are you and what are you up to? And how can I be where you are and do what you are doing?)
- 2) Philip- (will you please) **Show us the Father and that will be enough for us...**
  - (Who is God?, Is he trustworthy? I'm OK with Jesus, but the Father is scary!)
- 3) Judas the locksmith- **Why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?**
  - (Why me? Is this too good to be true? Why do other people have other knowledge/experiences with God... or even other "gods"... that are so different?)

# WE DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING, HOW CAN WE KNOW THE WAY?

- Jesus as the WAY the TRUTH and the LIFE- a unified trinity of characteristics
  - If Jesus was not the way, he could not be the truth or the life

## WAY- and THE Waymaker

- Way to where he is going- to his Father (and OUR FATHER)
- His sacrifice provided the way to relationship, forgiveness, justification, etc.
- To a place he prepared FOR ME

## TRUTH- The truth sets us free, indeed!

- There would be many lies, rumors, doubt-sowing uncertainties
- Jesus really (truthfully) is God, the Son of God, risen, seated above all etc.

## LIFE- THE life

- Eternal life, life to the full, Sonship

# SHOW US THE FATHER AND THAT WILL BE ENOUGH

- Don't you know me? ... even after I have been among you such a long time
  - It is possible to spend a lot of time around Jesus, even dedicating your life to him and to following him, and not really know him.
- Knowing and Trusting go hand-in-hand. Loving and depending on.
- 7 Reasons that God is trustworthy v.6-27
  - Jesus is the way, truth and life- the character and person of Jesus- KNOWN
  - He and the Father are one- the unity of the trinity- like Father, like Son
  - The Father and Jesus and the Holy Spirit will indwell us- not leave us
  - Look at the miracles- they show the CHARACTER/HEART of God
  - Jesus' teachings/commands bring life/love/unity with God
  - The Father and Jesus Love us
  - Jesus gives us perfect peace that is unique



# WHAT ARE THE THINGS THAT JESUS WAS DOING?

- Miracles, yes- but SO MUCH MORE
- Living as a dearly loved Son of God... Trusting and obeying his Father
- Revealing the Father, making him known
- Hearing and saying what his Father said... Seeing and doing what his father was doing... following God's timing/leading/prompts
- Preaching the good news of the kingdom... Proclaiming scripture
- Teaching people how to live, training followers, making disciples
- Valuing people who had been despised, mistreated and overlooked/ignored
- Displaying the fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit
- Living in an abiding, passionate, total relationship with his Abba... Papa, by the Spirit

# WHY ARE YOU SHOWING YOURSELF TO US AND NOT THE WORLD?

**The world must learn that Jesus loves his Father and has done exactly what he was commanded-** that's sonship!

NOW it is OUR ROLE to show the world!!! Jesus did his part!

As we live as Sons and Daughters of God, others will come to know him

Jesus is continuing to reveal the Father

When we live in obedience to him, we reflect him

Grow in intimacy/trust with our indwelling God

# JESUS' WORDS TOWARD HIS DISCIPLES IN JOHN 14- ACTIONS FOR OVERCOMING "TROUBLED HEARTS"/FEAR

We are invited  
into these  
"places" and to  
live in them





# JESUS' WORDS TOWARD DISCIPLES IN JOHN 14- WHAT HE WAS DOING THEN AND IS DOING NOW

Though it is finished,  
it is also ongoing in  
manifestation in our  
lives/relationship  
with God





A word cloud shaped like a cross, featuring various terms related to the Christian faith. The central word is "LOVED". Other prominent words include "redeemed", "forgiven", "son", "God's", "bought", "blameless", "holy", "living", "united", "included", "appointed", "near", "light", "alive", "risen", "secure", "filled", "appointed", "bought", "blameless", "holy", "living", "united", "included", "appointed", "near", "light", "alive", "risen", "secure", "filled", "appointed". The words are in various shades of blue and green, with some in a script font and others in a sans-serif font.

# ENCOUNTERING GOD AS DISCIPLES TODAY

- **TRUSTING GOD**, Nurturing RELATIONSHIP with the indwelling trinity- abiding
  - Life with the trinity indwelling us is DIFFERENT- new creatures!
- **Hearing God's WORD and RELATING to and obeying his WORD** (the living word!)
  - Reading, meditating on it/feeding
  - Listening for the Holy Spirit's promptings
    - Seeking God's direction, timing, and submitting/deferring to it
  - "Preset" (priority) to obey- empowered by LOVE- both written word and small still voice
- **ASKING** "What are you saying to me?" "What are you doing in me?" "What do you want to do through me?"... the importance of honest questions and being open to answers.
- **Inviting God's will** to be done in our lives, inviting transformation, laying down our lives by coming under his care as our loving Father- **NOT LIVING AS AN ORPHAN**
- **LIVING WITH GOD MORE SO THAN LIVING FOR HIM- SONSHIP... DEARLY LOVED CHILD**