

Topic	I am the Way, Truth and Life
Reference	John 14
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This chapter takes place with the famous passage of scripture, the first three verses about Let not your heart be troubled....but it is important for us to understand that contextually this passage of scripture actually is a continuation of John chapter 13 where Jesus is talking to his disciples in the upper room. In a little more than 24 hours, Jesus will endure the trial of gethsemane and praying in the garden and then being captured by the Roman guard, the Sanhedrin and he will be mocked and scourged and walked down with carrying his cross. Jesus knows what he is facing. So, John 13 really sets the scene for what takes place in John chapter 14. Jesus is now with just 11 disciples as Judas Iscariot, the betrayer has left.

Jesus is having this intimate conversation with them. He is telling them that he is going to no longer be with them and that's very soon and of course they get frightened because they have had this 3-year public ministry with Christ. They were living in an age where Rome has taken over the Jewish state. Jesus is trying to tell them that he is going to go away, he won't see them again in just a short period of time. So as John chapter 14 opens, we pick up this intimate conversation and Jesus is telling them that his life is coming to an end but he is not going to leave them comfortless, he promised Holy Spirit to them. So fear is a very real thing.

Three topics that I want to highlight today:

1. Let not your hearts be troubled – This world is not our home. vv. 1-3, 27
2. I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. v. 6.
3. The Holy Spirit is our Comforter, Helper and Advocate. vv15-31

LET NOT YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED – THIS WORLD IS NOT OUR HOME. VV. 1-3, 27

14:1 Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. **2 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? **3 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.**

So, the reasons for their fear was that

1. Jesus was soon to leave them.
2. Judas Iscariot was about to betray them.
3. Peter, their leader, was going to deny Him.

These are fears that are common to us as well; fear of abandonment, fear of a loss of a loved one, fear of betrayal and fear of rejection. Fear is a natural byproduct of living outside of the consciousness of the presence of God in our life. None of us can live outside of the presence of God in our life. He is the eternal existing ancient of days, so God is always there but what we forget is that he is present.

Jesus told them that I am going and will prepare a place for you and I am going to return some day and when I return I am going to take you home to be with me in heaven. So that's a very-very pleasant thought. When you live outside of the presence of God, you open yourself up to the possibility of having these fears and phobias and it can destroy your faith if you do that long enough. We all face trials in our faith and so the important thing is that you remember that God has promised, and He will keep your heart in perfect peace when your mind is stayed on him.

When you are living under the presence of God in your life you have an option and that option is to stand in your faith, to rest on the resources of God and not on your own resources. It is one that we don't often count, or we don't realize but that's available to us. Sometimes in the difficulties of life, the easy out is to run or to fight, but in God we have to stand.

How we could overcome fear.

1. Realize that this is not their home! Heaven is.
2. Jesus was going to prepare a place for them.
3. He will return to take us to our eternal home.

So, whatever we have to endure in this life is temporary. Are we preparing for eternity?

I AM THE WAY, AND THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. V. 6.

14:4 And you know the way to where I am going. 5 Thomas said to him, Lord, we do know where you are going. How can we know the way? 6 Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the father but through

me. 7 If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.

This particular chapter is one of the most prominent chapters about the Trinity and the nature of the trinity. Thomas said, Lord we don't know where you are going. In response to that Jesus said, I am the Way. It is very common for us nowadays to think that there are many ways to heaven. When Jesus said I am the Way, the one and only Way. A lot of religions have their own ways which they think are the right and will lead to heaven. But Jesus said, I am the only Way.

The scripture tells us in Proverbs 14:12 that there is a way that seems right to a man but the end of it is the way of death. So many people believe that they are right, that they are following the right thing, These ways are all in conflict with one another and they can't be all right. Jesus is the source of all truth. He said I am the Truth. He is the very manifest presence of God, everything that we know about God, we know through Jesus. Colossians says, that he is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature. He embodies what we know about God. Jesus said he who has seen me has seen the Father.

It also leads us to biggest questions of life namely who am I, why am I here, where am I going.

You can never fully grasp your identity as God intended it until you embrace a deep and intimate relationship with Jesus. We ask ourselves the question, why I am here, what is my purpose. Our purpose is to glorify and honor him and to serve him all of your days. Jesus is the Truth.

Jesus said I am the Life. Jesus is the sole source of all life, physical, spiritual, and eternal. No one shares the life of God or with God, apart from Jesus. The Bible tells us that he was the very creator the one who spoke creation into existence. When Jesus says I am the Life. That your current life if it is lived without him is just a shadow of what God created it to be. Life without him sounds like a distant echo of something that is fading. It is not a reflection of the real thing, here for a moment and then gone.

Don't live for this life alone. Live for Jesus. Thomas A. Kempis quote: *"I am the way, the truth and the life. Without the Way, there is no going; without the Truth there is no knowing, without the Life there is no living. I am the way which though shouldst pursue, the truth that thou shouldst believe; the life which thou shouldst hope for.*

We cannot trust in our works, we cannot trust in our reputation, we cannot trust in our resources for our salvation.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR COMFORTER, HELPER AND ADVOCATE. VV 15-31

If you love Jesus and He abides in you, you have the Holy Spirit and you can keep his commandments. We have a choice as a believer. We can live in the strength of your flesh and personality or we can live in the strength of the Holy Spirit which is supernatural. Because he live inside of us we can live beyond our means. We don't have to respond to fear with fight or flight, we can stand securely in him. Because he indwells us, we have the courage and faith.

¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

This is the Holy Spirit. You cannot honestly say that you love Jesus, you cannot honestly make that claim if you willfully continue to deny him and disobey him. Do not elude yourself. If we are not willing to live under the power of the Holy Spirit we need to ask God to forgive us and help us.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Jesus was obedient even onto the death of the cross. Are we willing to be obedient. Jesus knows what he is going to suffer and he makes this statement, let us go from here. That statement is offensive.

He meant that I am going to do battle with Satan on the cross. It is a symbol of great power and courage and great confidence and that's the kind of confidence that we have to have in him. Are you living the life that Christ wants you to live. He loves us and even though we might be denying him and betraying him and failing him, he says let not your heart be troubled.