

Many Rooms

The 'Way of Life' Series

Connecting with others around the presence of Jesus, & growing spiritually
by understanding and applying God's Word, together.

Week 5: John 13:31-38

PREPARE and PRAY

Breathe deeply, settle in, and prepare to meet with God. Then **invite God to speak** to you through His Word.

READ and LISTEN

Slowly read this week's Scripture several times. As you read, **listen to the Holy Spirit** with your heart and mind.

SUMMARIZE and REFLECT

On this page or in a journal, **summarize the core teaching** of these verses. **Ask God for insight** as you reflect on and answer the following questions.

1. What is one thing Jesus's words and/or actions reveal about God?
2. In your own words, what does Jesus say about who a disciple is and what disciples do?

DIG and DISCOVER

Take a closer look at God's truth. Let these questions and insights **deepen your understanding** as you prepare to apply God's word.

"Jesus does not say here that the world will know we are Christians by our love for God or for his Christ; rather, and a little surprisingly, they will know we are Christians by our loyal and affectionate churchmanship – by our heart for the Church. There is something refreshingly earthy, practical, and even countercultural about Jesus' new Love-the-Church Command in John's Gospel."

- Frederick Dale Bruner

In verses 31-32, Jesus claimed the Father would receive glory when Jesus entered into *his* glory. And earlier, (John 12:23) Jesus spoke of his coming crucifixion as "glorification."

- What did He mean when He was speaking of being "glorified?" And how did that glorify the Father?
- How is our culture define "glory," and how does it contrast with Jesus's?

In verses 34-35, Jesus gives a new command. The word *new* implies *freshness* or the *opposite of outworn*. Jesus didn't invent this commandment on the spot (see Leviticus 19:18,34; Matthew 7:12, 22:37-40) so much as present it in a fresh way.

- What is the new commandment? (see Matthew 7:12, 22:39, Mark 12:31) Is his command optional? Why or why not?
- What are some fresh aspects of this command in the following verses? - John 15:9-12; 1 John 2:9-11; 1 John 3:16-18

In verses 36-38 Peter, (and the disciples) did not yet understand what was coming.

- What did Jesus prophesy about Peter, and how did it strengthen Peter in the future? (See Luke 22:31-34)

Judas' denial of Jesus was deliberate and planned; Peter's denial (Luke 22:54-62) of Jesus was accidental and spontaneous.

- Are their denials the same or different? How so?
- Does knowing that God has full knowledge of you and the future impact you? Does it strengthen you?
- Can you give an example of when God prepared you for a trial you would later face? Share it with your group.

Jesus leads all believers to glorify God by loving others.

- How does our love for one another draw others to Christ? Can you share an example?
- John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave . . ." . Gave what? What was the price of God's love?
- Ask yourself the same question: Does my love for others cost anything? If so, what? If not, why not? Again, share an example with your group.

RESPOND and COMMIT

Ask God how he wants you to **respond to His Word** today and this week. **Commit to one step** of action and **share it** with someone you know.