

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 12: John 16:16-33

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.

The alchemy of the Spirit is to take the thing which causes pain and to transmute it until it causes joy. It will take some time. It is a process. There will be sorrow and tears and lamenting. But eventually it will turn into joy. "Your sorrow will turn into joy." - Ray Stedman

1. To what event(s) might the phrases, "you will see me no more" and "you will see me," refer?
2. Jesus admitted that his message was sometimes hard to understand. All of us struggle with God's teaching from time to time.
 - o From our study of John 13-16, what has been difficult for you to fully comprehend?
 - o And, what is a new insight you've gained? Share both with your group or a friend.
 - o What is your response when you don't fully understand God?
 - o What will happen when the Holy Spirit comes? Read John 14:26 & 16:13.
3. The verses about childbirth (20-22) illustrate that great joy can follow great pain. Both David (Ps 22:22-31) and Isaiah (53:10-12) foretold the joys of victory that the Lord's own suffering of soul would produce.
 - o What joy was born from this sorrow? In v20, what sorrow of the disciples did Jesus ultimately turn to joy?
4. What does it mean to "ask in Jesus's name?" (See Mark 11:24; John 7:18; Acts 2:21; 1 John 5:14)
5. Prayer is a privilege. In v23-28, what privileges come to believers upon Jesus's return to the Father?
6. What are you asking of God so that your joy is complete and He is honored before others?
7. Jesus did not promise peace; He offered it. Peace is offered to us, but tribulation is promised.
 - o Where do you have tribulation that you need to ask for His peace?
8. When the Holy Spirit freely works in us, we desire and delight in God's truth.
 - o Will you risk praying for Him to show you a new area of obedience or service to which He is calling you?
9. Read Matt 26:31 and John 16:28-32. Some disciples – then and now – believe they are beyond doubt. How much better Jesus knew them (and us) than they knew themselves! He warned they would scatter and leave Him alone even though they believed in Him.
 - o What life circumstances test your commitment to follow Jesus? Why are they such a significant test?
10. Though all else abandoned Jesus, who was still with Him? How does this truth about God (see also Joshua 1:9 and Matthew 28:20) help you withstand the most difficult times?

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.