

Grow Group Resource

Sermon Summary- Believe in Me- John 14:1-14

- This sermon looked at the beginning section on John 14. This section continues the farewell discourse started in the second half of John 13, which marks the final words Jesus would speak to his disciples before going to the cross.

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.”

- In the first verse he tells his disciples not to be troubled, which was likely how they were feeling after being told that one of them would betray Jesus and that Peter would deny even knowing Jesus 3 times.
- Jesus himself was not a stranger to feeling troubled as we can see in other chapters in the Gospel of John. Since he understands what it means to feel troubled, Jesus also knows the effectiveness of bringing our troubled hearts to God.
- The antidote to a troubled heart is belief in God and belief in Jesus. In John 6:28-29 Jesus tells a crowd that, by believing in him, they'll be doing the work of God.

“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

- Thomas asks how the disciples can know the way if they do not know where Jesus is going, despite the fact that Jesus just told them that he is going to his Father's house.
- It's easy to forget that the disciples had traveled with Jesus for 3 years at this point. As much as they knew he was the Messiah and Son of God, they also knew him as a man that they loved and genuinely wanted to follow; as a teacher and a friend.
- Jesus says that he is the only way to God, not that he is one of many potential paths you could take that all lead to God. Jesus says he is

the only truth, not simply one of many true things you could choose to believe. Jesus says he is the only life, not one option for how to live the good life on earth and everlasting.

- Jesus gives no middle ground here, to believe in Jesus is to believe in all of his words and works. Through this belief in Jesus, we believe in God.

“Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.”

- One of the disciples, Philip, asks Jesus to show them God, not understanding that Jesus and the Father are one. This points to the very human mindset where there always seems to be one more thing needed to be “enough” for us.
- In a Jewish prayer recited at Passover called the Dayenu, the Israelites go through the events of the exodus from Egypt by stating that even if God had done one miracle and not the next, it would have been enough for them. This is an attitude of understanding God’s great generosity and how even if all we had was that we knew God, it would be more than enough.

Key Takeaways

1. We will be troubled in this world, that is a guarantee. What matters is how we choose to handle it and, more importantly, who we choose to believe in. The world tells us to just believe in ourselves, but Jesus tells us to believe in God.
2. Believing in Jesus is truly believing that he is the only way, the only truth, and the only life. We don’t get to pick and choose what we believe about him. Believing in God and Jesus should also affect how we live our daily lives because we should be striving to follow Jesus’ teachings and commands to us.
3. We already have enough if we know and believe in God. When we are always asking God for just one more thing that will be “enough”, we often forget how he has provided for us in the past and are perpetually discontent with what we have. We also need to recognize

that God's plan is greater than ours, even when we don't understand it.

Grow Group Discussion Questions

1. Have someone open your discussion time with a word of prayer.
2. Read through John 14:1-14 as a group.
 - What questions come up as you read the text?
 - Is there any part that stands out to you?
3. We can see from texts such as John 13:21; 12:27; and 11:33 that Jesus also experienced times where he felt troubled. How does Jesus show that He understands human emotions like anxiety or fear?
 - What are some situations today that can cause our hearts to feel troubled?
4. Jesus says that he is the way, the truth, and the life, continuing on to state that he is the only way to God. What makes Jesus' claim exclusive (the only way) rather than inclusive (one of many ways)?
 - How might people today react to the idea that Jesus is the only way to God?
5. What does it look like to truly believe in Jesus—not just intellectually, but in how we live?
 - Why is it sometimes tempting to “pick and choose” what we believe about Jesus?
6. Philip asks Jesus to see the Father, claiming how that will be enough for the disciples. Do you ever feel like you need “just one more thing” from God to be satisfied? Why?
 - What are some ways we can practice being content with what God has already given us?

7. How should believing that Jesus is the only way, truth, and life change how we live, speak, and treat others?