

Introduction

On February 8, Super Bowl LX will be played. The Seattle Seahawks will take on the New England Patriots. Brian Billick is a former NFL coach, and his team won the Super Bowl in 2000, while he was coaching the Baltimore Ravens. Later, he went on to coach the Atlanta Falcons from 2008 to 2014, and was their winningest coach in their program history. When asked about the preparation and game plan for the big game, he said, “Super Bowl prep is less about grinding through practices and more about getting players mentally settled and focused. The game plan, he explained, isn’t being drawn up at the last minute.”¹

The much-awaited hour has come for Jesus to depart and return to the Father. The Game Plan was not drawn up at the last minute. We find in Acts 2:23 and Micah 5:2 that this predetermined plan was drawn up by God from the days of eternity; it was not drawn up at the last minute. Several months earlier, at the Transfiguration, Jesus met with Moses and Elijah, and they reviewed the details of His upcoming departure. They were getting prepared for the big event.

(Lk 9:29–31) “And while He was praying, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing *became* white *and* gleaming. {30} And behold, two men were talking with Him; and they were Moses and Elijah, {31} who, appearing in glory, were speaking of His departure which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.”

It is Jesus’ final few hours with His disciples before His arrest and crucifixion. He has been giving them some last-minute instructions. He has just finished having celebrating the Passover Meal with them in the Upper Room. Since He is going back to the Father and they cannot go with Him, He has been encouraging them not to let their hearts be troubled. He exhorted them to believe in God and to believe in Him. He told them He was preparing a place for them, and would return to receive them and take them with Him. He told them that He was the Way, and the Truth, and the Life, and that no one could go to the Father but through Him.

He told them that He and the Father were one, and if they had seen Him, they had seen the Father. If they had known Him, they had known the Father. He said that His words and His works both testified that He and the Father are one. Finally, He told them that their works that they will do in His name will also confirm that He and the Father are one.

Our passage today contains the last section of this exhortation to not let their hearts be troubled. In it, Jesus goes over the departure game plan. First, He tells them their part or role. He reminds them three times of what is expected of each of them. Second, He tells them His part. He tells them what He will be doing, and focuses heavily on the role of the Holy Spirit, who He will be sending to them. Third, Jesus tells them several things that they can expect.

The Departure Game Plan

1. Disciples’ Part
2. Jesus’ Part
3. Promises and Expectations

(Jn 14:15–31) “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. {16} “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; {17} *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him,

¹ <https://www.fox5atlanta.com/news/former-coaches-brian-billick-mike-smith-super-bowl-prep-defense-ai.amp>

but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. {18} “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. {19} After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also. {20} In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. {21} He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.” {22} Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?” {23} Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. {24} He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me. {25} “These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. {26} But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. {27} Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. {28} You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. {29} Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. {30} I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; {31} but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.”

1. Disciples’ Part

Most messages and commentaries focus on the role of the Holy Spirit in this passage. While there is much to be said about the role of the Holy Spirit, and the importance of it, Jesus tells the disciples three times that if they love Him, they will keep His commandments. Somehow, you have to connect the dots between what Jesus is telling the disciples to do, and what He is going to do. The outline that I chose for the passage incorporates everything in the passage, including the role of the Holy Spirit. Jesus begins by telling the disciples, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

(Jn 14:15) “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

What were the commandments that Jesus told them to keep? Earlier in the evening, Jesus gave them a new commandment, to love one another, just as He had loved them, and that the whole world would know that they are His disciples by their love. Loving one another has to be close to the top of the list of commandments.

(Jn 13:34–35) “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. {35} By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

I say close to the top, because in verses twenty-one and twenty-three, Jesus talks about keeping His commandments and being loved by His Father. He mentions that by keeping His commandments, He would love them and will disclose Himself to them. Obedience is one of the keys to growing closer to God. Obedience to God brings intimacy with God. When we keep God’s commandments, God discloses Himself or reveals more of Himself to us. Do you want to know God, to really know God, and to grow in Your knowledge of Him? Obedience to Him is one of the keys to knowing God, because He promises to disclose Himself to us.

(Jn 14:21) “He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.”

The Apostle Paul counted all things as loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus. He counted all things as rubbish so that he could gain Christ. In order to know Christ and to know the Father, one of the keys is obedience to Him. When we keep His commandments, He promises to disclose Himself to us.

(Php 3:8) “More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,”

The Greatest Commandment is to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. If we love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, we will keep His commandments. The second commandment is like it; we are to love one another as ourselves. All the other commandments are summed up in these two commands. Whatever commandments that Jesus had taught them, they could be summed up by these two commands. Jesus has taken time in these last few hours to remind them to love God by keeping His commandments, and to love one another just as He has loved them.

(Mt 22:36–40) “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” {37} And He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ {38} This is the great and foremost commandment. {39} The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ {40} On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

The third time that Jesus reminds the disciples of their part is in verse twenty-three. He said that “if anyone loves Me, he will keep My word and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.” When we obey God, He discloses Himself. Furthermore, when we obey God, the Father and the Son make their abode with us. An abode is a place to live or reside. Do you want God in your home? Do you want God abiding with you at all times? We all want God to make His abode with us. One of the keys is obedience. We must keep His word.

(Jn 14:23) “Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.”

One of the keys to keeping God’s word is to meditate on His word day and night. In Joshua 1:8, God tells us that “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.” The way that we can be careful about doing according to all that is written in it is to meditate on His word day and night.

(Jos 1:8) “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

To meditate means to ponder, think, consider, chew, and contemplate. We take a verse and focus on all the words used. We think about cross references. We think about applications. We think about examples. I have found it helpful to write or journal your thoughts about the verse.

In Psalm 119:148, the psalmist gives us a key to meditation. He said, “My eyes anticipate the night watches, that I may meditate on Your word.” He could not read the word in the night watch, so he anticipated the night watches with his eyes by reading and memorizing the word. Since he had memorized the word, he had it at his disposal in the night watch to meditate on.

(Ps 119:148) “My eyes anticipate the night watches, that I may meditate on Your word.”

My wife reads a portion of scripture right before going to bed. In addition to setting her mind on things above, that practice helps her to think about His word during the night and in the morning watch. She anticipates the night watch with her eyes so that she can meditate on God’s word day and night, just like God tells us to do in Joshua 1:8.

Finally, in John 14:31, Jesus tells the disciples that His obedience to the what the Father commanded Him to do would let the world know that He loves the Father. Jesus set the example for His disciples. He kept the Father’s commandments, and now He is telling the disciples to keep the Father’s commandments as a proof of their love for the Father.

(Jn 14:31) “but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.”

2. Jesus’ Part

a. Ask the Father to give the Holy Spirit

The second thing that Jesus communicated with His disciples is what He was going to do for them. The context of the passage is that He does not want them troubled in heart about His departure. He has already told them that He is going back to the Father and will be preparing a place for them. He has already told them that He will come back again and receive them so that they can be where He is. Now, He tells them that He is going to send them a Helper. In His absence, He said that He was going to ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever. We see the trinity here. We have the Father, the Son, and the Helper, who is the Holy Spirit. He is another Helper. Jesus has been with the disciples, and now the Holy Spirit will be their Helper.

(Jn 14:16) “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;”

In Albert Barnes’ commentary, he gives God’s plan of redemption. He said that the Father sends the Son. Second, the Son makes atonement and then intercedes. Third, the Holy Spirit applies the work to the hearts of men. Jesus has been with the disciples, and now there is going to be another Helper, the third member of the Trinity.

Who is this Helper that the Father is going to give to them? First, we see that the Father is going to give them another Helper. The Holy Spirit is a gift.

(Jn 14:17) “*that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.”

In Luke 11, Jesus was speaking to the disciples about prayer. In verse thirteen He said, “If you then, being evil, now how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your

heavenly father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" The Holy Spirit is a gift that our heavenly Father gives to those who believe.

(Lk 11:13) "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Second, we see that the Holy Spirit is a Helper. The Greek word is *parakletos* (Strong's G3875), which means one that comes forward in behalf of and as the representative of another. The root word is *parakaleo* (Strong's, which means to comfort, encourage, or exhort. The KJV translates this as Comforter. In the Complete Word Study Dictionary, they say that the Greek word *allos* (Strong's G243), which is translated as another, means another of equal quality. Jesus did not use *heteros* (Strong's G2087), which would have been another of a different quality. Jesus is telling the disciples that the Holy Spirit is equal with Himself. The Holy Spirit is called the Paraclete because He acts as Christ's substitute on earth.²

The third thing that we see about the Holy Spirit is that He will be with them forever. The Holy Spirit was not a temporary gift, or a temporary helper; the Holy Spirit was going to be with them forever.

(Jn 14:16–17) "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; {17} *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you."

The fourth thing that we see about the Holy Spirit is that He will be in the disciples. He was not just going to be with them, but He was going to be in them. In Paul's letter to the Corinthians, he wrote two times that believers are temples of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in them. The application that Paul made is that we are to live holy lives and glorify God in our bodies.

(1 Co 3:16) "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?"

(1 Co 6:19–20) "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? {20} For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body."

A few verses later, Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love Him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him." It is not just the Holy Spirit; it is the Spirit of Christ. God will come and reside in us. We are not just temple for the Holy Spirit, but we are temples of God, and the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit live in us.

(Jn 14:23) "Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him."

In verse eighteen, Jesus said, "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." Even though Jesus was leaving and going back to the Father, He was not going to leave them as orphans. The

² Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2000).

KJV uses the term, “comfortless”, but the Greek word is orphanos (Strong’s G3737), and we get our English word, orphan, from it. The root of the word (orphnos) means obscure or dark. The KJV translates it as comfortless, because orphans did not have a father to comfort them; they were left to themselves. The Word Study of the New Testament Dictionary said that “orphans were often considered little esteemed and neglected, and thus forced to wander in obscurity and darkness.”

(Jn 14:18) “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”

Earlier in the evening, Jesus addressed the disciples as “Little children.” He was not insulting them or putting them down; it was a term of endearment. It was also a term that showed that He was the Master and Teacher, and they were His disciples. He was a Father figure to them. He said, “Little children, I am with you a little while longer.” He was speaking to them about His departure. Now, He tells them that He is not going to leave them as orphans. As their spiritual father, He was leaving them, but He was not going to leave them as orphans; He was going to send the Holy Spirit. Jesus was going to be with them in Spirit. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit were going to be with them; they were not being left as orphans.

(Jn 13:33) “Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’”

The fifth thing that we see about the Holy Spirit is that the world cannot receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit only indwells believers. God is holy, and the Holy Spirit is holy. Until Jesus died for our sins, and declared us righteous, the Holy Spirit could not dwell in us. When a person hears the gospel and believes and receives Christ, the Holy Spirit comes into them and seals them.

(Jn 14:17) “*that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.”

In Ephesians 1:13, Paul wrote, “In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise.”

(Eph 1:13–14) “In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, {14} who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God’s* own possession, to the praise of His glory.”

Jesus said that the world could not receive the Holy Spirit because it does not see Him or know Him, but that believers would know Him. As believers, we are to know the Holy Spirit. Even though we can’t see the Spirit, we can see the effects of the Holy Spirit, just as we can see the effects of wind, which we also cannot see. We are to know the Holy Spirit. We are to know when the Holy Spirit is talking to us and communicating with us.

(Jn 14:16–17) “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; {17} *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.”

In 2 Corinthians 13:14, Paul ends his letter with a benediction, saying, “the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.” Because the Holy Spirit is in believers, they are to know the Spirit and to fellowship with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a person, the third person of the trinity, and we can fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

(2 Co 13:14) “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.”

The sixth thing that Jesus told the disciples about the Holy Spirit is that He is the Spirit of truth. In verse twenty-six, Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would teach them all things, and bring to remembrance all that He had spoken to them. Jesus had earlier said that He was the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. Now, Jesus calls the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth. The Father was going to send the Holy Spirit in Jesus’ name. Since Jesus is the Truth, the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. The Holy Spirit, who will be with them and in them, who is the Spirit of Truth is going to teach them truth. Just as Jesus taught them truth, now the Holy Spirit is going to teach them truth.

(Jn 14:16–17) “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; {17} *that is* the Spirit of truth...”

(Jn 14:26) “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.”

In 2 Corinthians 3:17, Paul wrote, “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. Because the Holy Spirit and the Lord are both part of the trinity, where the Lord is, the Spirit is. That is why earlier in John, Jesus said that He, the Father, and the Spirit, would make their abode in the disciples. Where the Lord was, the Spirit was also. Since Jesus is the Truth, the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth. The Holy Spirit was going to pick up where Jesus left off, and will continue to teach them truth. He will also remind them of the truths that Jesus had already taught them. Many things that Jesus said to the disciples went over their heads, and they did not understand it. The Holy Spirit was going to bring to their remembrance all these things and give them understanding.

(2 Co 3:17) “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, *there* is liberty.”

Since the Holy Spirit teaches us truth, one of the applications is to ask the Holy Spirit every day to teach us truth. As we open up the Bible to read it, we should pray and ask the Holy Spirit to teach us. We should ask the Holy Spirit to bring to our remembrance things we have been taught.

b. Give them peace

Jesus was going to give the disciples the Holy Spirit. Now He tells them that He is going to give them peace. This peace is not as the peace that the world gives, it is an internal peace. Normally, the world thinks of peace as the absence of conflict. When you are not at war with someone, you are at peace with them. This peace is circumstantial and external. The peace that God gives is internal. You can experience this peace in the midst of a storm, in the midst of a conflict, or in any other circumstance.

(Jn 14:27) “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.”

Keep in mind the context of the overall passage, “Do not let your heart be troubled.” Jesus has given them a number of reasons to not be troubled in their hearts. He has just told them that He will give them the Holy Spirit, and now He tells them that He is giving them peace. In Philippians 4:6-7, Paul taught that we are not to be anxious in anything, but to pray with thanksgiving and the peace of God that surpasses understanding will guard our hearts and our minds. God’s peace surpasses our understanding. It is a spiritual peace. This peace guards our hearts and minds; it is an internal peace.

(Php 4:6–7) “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. {7} And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

In Galatians 5, Paul wrote about the spirit-filled life. He exhorted us not to walk in the flesh, but in the Spirit. He said if we walk in the Spirit, we would not carry out the deeds of the flesh. Then, he gave us the fruit of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Notice that the third fruit of the Holy Spirit is peace. This internal peace is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, who is dwelling in our heart.

(Ga 5:22–23) “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, {23} gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

In 1994, I was near the lead in the Nike Tour event in Macon, Georgia. I had just made a birdie and I was walking from the green to the next tee box, and I was feeling a little nervous on the inside. I reminded the Lord of His promise to give peace. I asked the Holy Spirit to give me peace. As I walked, a gentle breeze blew over me and I was flooded with peace. There was not a trace of anxiety or nervousness when I got to the tee box. The Holy Spirit, who is living in believers, gives peace.

3. Promises and Expectations

During this briefing that Jesus held with His disciples, He not only shared their responsibilities and the things He was going to do, but He also shared some expectations with them.

a. You will see Me

The first promise and expectation was that they would see Him. He was leaving them, but He said He would come back to receive them. He was not going to leave them as orphans, but would come to them. The world was not going to see Him, but they were going to see Him.

(Jn 14:3) “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also.”

(Jn 14:18–19) “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. {19} After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also.”

In verse twenty-eight, He told them, “You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is

greater than I.” It is not just a reiteration that He was going to leave and come back to them, but it was followed up with an attitude check. He wanted them to be rejoicing about Him going back to the Father. Their concerns were about themselves, and not about Jesus. Love is about wanting the best for the other person. Love is not selfish, and does not seek its own.

(Jn 14:28) “You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.”

Jesus said that the Father is greater than I. While Jesus was in the flesh, the Father was greater than Him. However, when He went back to the Father, He had the glory that He had prior to coming in the flesh. In Philippians 2, Paul points out that Jesus existed in the form of God, but did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, and emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and was made in the likeness of men. Jesus has just pointed out to the disciples that He and the Father were one. Jesus was Immanuel, God in the flesh (Mt 1:23). Jesus was the exact representation of the nature of God (He 1:3). I also believe that there is a divine order, and in that divine order, the Father was first. Jesus was always submitted to the Father. Even after Jesus’ resurrection, He told the disciples in Acts 1:7 that it was not for them “to know the times or epochs with the Father has fixed by His own authority.”

(Php 2:5–7) “Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, {6} who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, {7} but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.”

b. You will live

The second expectation that Jesus gave them was that they would live. Jesus is about to lay His life down and go back to the Father. In Peter’s haste, he said that he was willing to lay His own life down, to which Jesus told him that he would deny Him three times before a rooster crowed. Jesus told the disciples that He was being betrayed, and that He would be arrested, condemned, and crucified. Since they were His disciples, they had to wonder what was going to happen to them. Jesus told them that they would live. He said, “Because I live, you will live also.” This had to be a word of encouragement and comfort to the disciples. Remember the context of the passage was for the disciples not to let their hearts be troubled, and this word to them was very reassuring.

(Jn 14:19) “After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also.”

c. You will know we are all one

Jesus has told them that He was in the Father, and that the Father was in Him. In verse twenty, He told them, “In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.” It was not just that He was in the Father, but that they were now going to be in Him, and He was going to be in them. The way that He was going to be in them, and in every believer is in Spirit. We have the Spirit of the Lord in us. We have the Holy Spirit in us. We are in Christ, and He is in us.

(Jn 14:9–10) “Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how *can* you say, ‘Show us

the Father"? {10} Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works."

(Jn 14:20) "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."

In 1 John 5:12, God tells us that if we have Christ in us, we know that we have eternal life. If we do not have the Lord in us, we do not have life. Jesus promised that He would be in the disciples. When we ask Jesus to come into our life, and be our Lord and Savior, He comes in, and we are in Christ. In Ephesians 1:3-14, Paul gives all the spiritual blessings that we have, and each one of them begins with "In Him, we have..." We are in Christ, and He is in us.

(1 Jn 5:12) "He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life."

d. You will be loved by the Father and by Jesus

Jesus began this Upper Room conversation in chapter thirteen. In John 13:1, we see that Jesus loved His own to the end. Jesus loved His disciples. In verse thirty-four, He gave the disciples a new commandment, to love one another, even as He had loved them. There was no question about the fact that Jesus had loved His disciples to the end, that is the end of His earthly life and ministry.

(Jn 13:1) "Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end."

(Jn 13:34) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

Now, after telling them that those who keep His commandments are the ones that love Him, He tells them that they will be loved by the Father, and that He would love them and disclose Himself to them. Jesus' love for them was not going to stop when He departed to be with the Father. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are going to be with them, and in them, and they are going to love them. Then, in verse twenty-three, He tells them again that the Father will love them, and make their abode with them.

(Jn 14:21) "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

(Jn 14:23) "Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him."

Some people live their whole life feeling unloved. Their parents did not tell them that they love them. They grew up without the love and affection that should be in the home. They grow up not knowing that God loves them. Jesus has loved the disciples in both word and action. He is about to lay His life down and He tells them He and the Father love them, and are going to disclose themselves to them. They are going to have a relationship with God. There is going to be intimacy and sharing with them.

When you know that you are loved, there is a deeper trust. When you know that you are loved, you know that whatever is shared, positive or negative, is for your edification. You know that they always want the best for you. You know that there are no wrong or ulterior motives, and every word or deed can be trusted. It is a wonderful thing to be loved with a perfect love, and this is what Jesus promised to His disciples, and that is what they could expect.

Conclusion and Applications

After saying these things to the disciples, He concluded this conversation by saying, “Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.” His hour has come and He is about to be arrested, condemned, crucified, and then raised from the dead. All of this is about to happen, and Jesus has told His disciples these things so that they would believe. He did not have much more to speak with them. He had shared His heart with them, and encouraged them so that their hearts would not be troubled.

(Jn 14:29–30) “Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. {30} I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me;”

Next, He told them that the ruler of the world is coming and he has nothing in Me. The ruler of the world is Satan, and Jesus said that Satan has nothing in Him. Jesus has lived a sinless life. He has been tempted in all things, and was without sin. Satan has nothing in Him, and nothing on Him. Satan is an evil spirit, and is over all the other demons. Earlier, during the Last Supper, Jesus gave the morsel to Judas Iscariot, and Satan entered into Judas. Satan is not omnipresent like God. Satan was in Judas, and when Jesus said that the ruler of the world was coming, He was saying that Judas, whom Satan was in, was on His way to betray Jesus.

(Heb 4:15) “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.”

(Jn 13:26–27) “Jesus then answered, “That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him.” So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, *the son of Simon Iscariot*. {27} After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Therefore Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.”

Jesus concluded by saying that He did exactly as the Father commanded Him so that the world would know that He loved the Father. He has told the disciples three times that if they love the Father, they will keep His commandments. Now He testifies that He has kept the Father’s commandments so that the world will know that He loves the Father. Jesus has shared the example of His life with the disciples so that they will love the Father by being obedient. Good leaders are examples to the flock. Good leaders are transparent and use the examples in their lives to help others be obedient to God.

(Jn 14:31) “but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.”

Finally, Jesus said, “Get up, let us go from here.” There are different thoughts about what this meant. Some believe that they got up from the table and went to another room. However, most

scholars believe that Jesus and the disciples got up and left the place where they had shared this Passover Meal, and had started walking toward the Garden of Gethsemane. Even though the Upper Room Discourse usually includes John 14-17, it probably should be John 13-14. John 15-17 most likely took place while they were walking towards the Garden of Gethsemane. In John 18, John wrote, “When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples over the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden, in which He entered with His disciples.”

(Jn 18:1) “When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples over the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden, in which He entered with His disciples.”

There are many applications from this passage for all of us. First, we show our love of God by keeping His commandments. Lots of people say that they love God, but when we look at their lives, it is evident that they really don’t love God because they are not keeping His commandments. Obedience to God’s commandments is extremely important. Do you love God? I exhort you to keep God’s commandments.

I encourage you to read God’s word and to meditate on His word, so that you can be careful to do according to all that is written in it. Find a good daily Bible reading plan, and read your Bible every day. Think about what you are reading. Begin to memorize Scripture. Meditate on the passages you are memorizing. James tells us to look intently at the word of God so that we become doers of the word, and not merely hearers. If you love God, keep His commandments.

The second application is to cultivate your relationship with God. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are making their abode in you. God wants to have intimacy with you. God wants to disclose Himself to you. God wants to love and show His love to you. Jesus came and died on the cross so that we could have fellowship with God. Spend time with God in worship. Spend time with God in the Word. Spend time with God in prayer. Talk to God throughout the day. Learn to hear from Him. Most people find that journaling is a great way to hear from God.

The third application is to cultivate your relationship with the Holy Spirit. Learn to fellowship with the Holy Spirit throughout the day. Talk to the Holy Spirit. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you the word. Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of things. Learn to fellowship with the Holy Spirit. God gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit so that we would not be left as orphans and be on our own. God is with us in Spirit, and we need to take full advantage of this wonderful gift. Paul wrote in his benediction to the Corinthians, “the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.” Thank God for His grace and His love, and cultivate your relationship with God by fellowshiping with the Holy Spirit.

(2 Co 13:14) “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.”

Closing Prayer

Jesus, we love You. Help us to keep Your commandments and show our love to You by our obedience. Jesus, thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, I pray that You will lead and guide us. Holy Spirit, You are the Spirit of Truth, and I pray that You will teach us truth. I pray that You remind us and help us to remember things we have been taught. I pray that we will learn to have a more intimate relationship with You, and to fellowship with You throughout the day. I pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Discussion Questions

- Why is obedience to God one of the ways that we are to show that we love God?
- What are some essential keys to obeying God's commandments?
- What is the difference between obeying God because of a fear of the Lord and obeying God because we love Him?
- How does the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, teach us truth?
- If the Holy Spirit is to teach us truth, do we still need pastors?
- What is something that the Holy Spirit has taught you?
- What is something that the Holy Spirit has reminded you of?
- If God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) is abiding in us, what kind of lives should we be living? How should that affect the way we live? How should that affect the way that we minister to people?

Introduction (Lk 9:29–31, Jn 14:15–31)

1. Disciples' Part (Jn 14:15, 13:34-35, 14:21, Php 3:8, Mt 22:36–40, Jn 14:23, Jos 1:8, Ps 119:148, Jn 14:31)

2. Jesus' Part

a. Ask the Father to give the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:16-18, Lk 11:13, 1 Co 3:16, 6:19-20, Jn 14:23, 13:33, Eph 1:13–14, 2 Co 13:14, Jn 14:26, 2 Co 3:17)

b. Give them peace (Jn 14:27, Php 4:6–7, Ga 5:22-23)

3. Promises and Expectations

a. You will see Me (Jn 14:3, 14:18-19, 14:28, Mt 1:23, He 1:3, Ac 1:7, Php 2:5–7)

b. You will live (Jn 14:19)

c. You will know we are all one (Jn 14:9–10, 14:20, 1 Jn 5:12)

d. You will be loved by the Father and by Jesus (Jn 13:1, 13:34, 14:21, 14:23)

Conclusion and Applications (Jn 14:29–31, He 4:15, Jn 13:26–27, Jn 18:1)

1.

2.

3.