

The Essentials: The Gospel of John
Session 7: John 14: 1-14

Opening Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Watch Video

Read: John 14: 1-14 (out loud)

Discussion:

1. As our video mentioned, Jesus' profound words of encouragement in vv. 1 and 2 follow immediately after his crushing rebuke of Peter. Discuss the significance of this juxtaposition.
2. Some translations of v. 2 describe the house of God containing many "mansions." What does this say about the place that he prepares for his followers?
3. In v. 5 Thomas tells Jesus that the disciples don't know where Jesus is going. In response, Jesus affirms that they *do* know the way even if they *do not* know where he is going. What might it mean that the disciples don't know the destination, but do know the way?
4. Reread vv. 8-11. How specifically does Jesus reveal God the Father to the disciples? How do we still see God through Jesus?
5. Jesus describes how his works reveal the character of God the Father (vv. 10-12). He also says that his works can and should prompt belief. What might it then mean if those who believe are to do the works that he does? What kind of works does he have in mind here?
6. In v. 14 Jesus says that he will do anything we ask in his name. This is surprising! Do you think he means it? What kinds of things should you ask him?

Check in and Closing Prayer

John 14: 1-14

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do 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 authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.