

John 16:12-33 – Victory Over the World

In chapter 16, Jesus does not have much time left with the disciples. There was still more that the disciples needed to know so, after Jesus was gone, the Holy Spirit would teach them and lead them into truth.

Read John 16:12-15.

Chapters 14 through 16 deal, in part, with the work of the Holy Spirit after Jesus' return to the Father. What ministry of the Holy Spirit is mentioned in verses 13-15? Jesus had talked about how his words were not his own and that he said what the Father told him to say. What is the source of the Holy Spirit's teaching?

Read John 16:16-24.

Verse 16 is a twist on what Jesus had said before. Before Jesus had said that in a little while and they would not be able to find him or follow him. Now he tells the disciples that in a little while, they would see him again. How did the disciples react to this statement? (16:17-18)

Jesus knew that the disciples did not understand what he had said. Jesus expanded on his statement. What different emotions would the disciples go through in the next few days? How would the world react to Jesus' departure? (16:20-22)

What illustration did Jesus use to explain what the disciples would soon experience? (16:21)

What would be the cause of the disciples' grief and mourning? What would be the cause of the disciples' joy?

Once Jesus returned to the Father, how were the disciples to pray? What would be the result of their prayers? (16:23-24)

Read John 16:25-33.

Jesus told the disciples that he had been speaking in figures. This is the same word that was used in chapter 10 when Jesus spoke about the good shepherd. When would Jesus no longer use figures when talking about his Father? (16:25)

Once Jesus returned to the Father, what did Jesus say about the disciples' relationship with the Father? (16:26-27)

Why did the Father love the disciples? (16:27)

How did the disciples respond to Jesus' statement that he had come from the Father and came into the world and that he was leaving the world and going to the Father? (16:28-30)

How did Jesus respond to the disciples' new found understanding? (16:31)

Zechariah 13:7 says "Strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered." Jesus quoted this verse in Matthew 26:31 and Mark 14:27 when he told his disciples that they would all fall away. Verse 32 seems to contain the same idea. What did Jesus say would happen to his disciples and to himself? (16:32)

In verse 33, what did the disciples have in Jesus? What would the disciples have in the world? What is the significance of Jesus' statement that he had overcome (conquered) the world? (16:33)