

John 14:15-31 – Much Needed Help

Thomas didn't know where Jesus was going and therefore he didn't know the way. Philip didn't know who "The Father" was. The disciples needed help in a big way. Jesus told his disciples about the One whom the Father would send to help them.

Read John 14:15-31.

What is true of those who love Jesus? (14:15)

In verse 16 Jesus said that he would ask the Father and he would give someone to them to be with them forever. A few translators didn't want to translate the original word into normal daily English and so they "translated" the word as "Paraclete". I don't think I have ever heard the word used in English except to refer to the Holy Spirit. First notice that Jesus said "another Paraclete". The first "Paraclete" is found in 1 John 2:1. Jesus was the first Paraclete who is our legal counsel or advocate with the Father. "But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (ESV) The second Paraclete is the Holy Spirit. This word, Paraclete, is only used in the New Testament by John. What is the best English translation for Paraclete based on John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7? The most common translations are "Advocate", "Counselor", "Comforter", and "Helper".

What is true of the Holy Spirit from verse 17?

Jesus came from God the Father and was going back to God the Father. He will return one day. Once Judas left, Jesus referred to them as "little children". In keeping with the language of a family, Jesus said that he would not leave them as orphans. Jesus was with the disciples for a relatively short time. The Holy Spirit would be with them forever. What does Jesus mean in verse 19 by the world would not see him but that the disciples would? What was Jesus referring to when he said that the disciples would live because he lives?

Verse 20 speaks of the unity of God the Father and God the Son. It also speaks of the unity of Jesus with his disciples. From verse 21, what is true of those who keep Jesus' commandments? Compare verse 21 with verse 15.

In verse 22, Judas, not the betrayer, asked Jesus an interesting question. Why did Jesus only reveal himself to his followers after his resurrection and not the general public? How did Jesus answer Judas' question? (14:23-24) Compare verses 23-24 to verses 15 and 21.

Jesus had very little time left to spend with his disciples. From verse 26, how would the Holy Spirit help the disciples? What are some examples of this from the Gospel of John? See 2:22 and 12:16.

Jesus gave his disciples his peace. What is the effect of Jesus' peace? How does the world give? (14:27)

Why should the disciples rejoice at Jesus' leaving? What did Jesus mean by "The Father is greater than I"? What did Jesus not mean? (14:28)

Based on verse 29, why did Jesus tell his disciples these things before they happened?

What did Jesus say about the ruler of the world? (14:30)

What would the world know about Jesus? (14:31)