

STUDY #39

THE COMFORTING LORD

John 14:15-31

John's Purpose Statement:

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:30-31

John 14:15-31—

¹⁵ 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, *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.”

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS

→ Read vs. 15, 21 & 23 (see above)

1. If someone loves Jesus, what will they do?

2. How is the following passage similar? 1 John 2:3-5—³By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; ⁵but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected.”

→ Read vs. 16-17—¹⁶I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷that 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.”

1. What does Jesus say He is going to do? (v. 16)

2. How is the “another” described in vs. 16 & 17?

3. How long will the Helper & Spirit of truth be with the disciples? (v. 16)

4. Who cannot receive this Helper? (v. 17) Why?

5. Read the following passages to see when & how the disciples were given the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:4-5, 8—³[Jesus] presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And while staying with them he ordered [the disciples] not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”...⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 2:1-4—“...they were all together in one place.²And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...”

6. Read the following passages to see when present day believers are given the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5-6—⁵“He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,”

Romans 8:9—⁹“However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.”

→ **Read vs. 18-20**—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.”

1. How might the disciples be feeling like orphans?
2. What promise does Jesus make in v. 18?
3. Before raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus said to Mary, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.” Keeping that in mind, what is Jesus referring to in v. 19?
4. What truth will the disciples understand after Jesus’ resurrection (i.e. “in that day”)?

→ **Read vs. 21-26**—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.”

1. What three promises does Jesus make to those who loves Him? (v. 21)
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
2. Who asks Jesus a question in v. 22? What does he ask?
3. Who is Jesus promising will be with the disciples in these verses?

→ **Read vs. 25-26**—²⁵“These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. ²⁶But 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.”

1. In whose name will the Father send the Helper, the Holy Spirit? (v. 26)
2. How will He help Jesus' followers? (v. 27)

→ **Read v. 27**—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. ²⁸You 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.

1. What is Jesus leaving with His disciples?
2. What does He command His disciples in v. 27?
3. What did Jesus say in v. 28 that may have been the cause of the disciples' hearts to become troubled and fearful?
4. According to v. 28, what should have been their response?

→ **Read vs. 29-31**—²⁹“Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. ³⁰I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; ³¹but 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. Why is Jesus telling all these things to His disciples?
2. Who does Jesus know is coming?
3. Why is Jesus doing “exactly as the Father commanded”?

TEACHING NOTES

1. Comfort for those who _____ Jesus (vs. 15, 21, & 23)

2. You will not be left alone—_____ will be with you (vs. 16-24)
 - a. The _____ will be with you (vs. 16-17)

 - b. The _____ will be with you (vs. 18-20)

 - c. The _____ will be with you (vs. 22-24)

3. You will not be left alone—Another _____ will be with you (vs. 25-26)

4. You will not be left alone—_____ will be with you (v. 27)

5. Comfort in the _____ of Jesus (vs. 28-31)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What about this passage made an impact on you?
2. What is the relationship between obedience and love? (see vs. 15, 21, 23) How did Jesus model this? (see v. 31) Think about your own life—is it characterized by loving and obeying God?

Reflect on the following verse:

¹ John 2:3-5—³By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; ⁵but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected.”

3. Have you ever felt alone...abandoned...inadequate...depressed? How might Jesus' promises that we are not left alone, but have the presence of the Holy Spirit (vs. 16-17), Jesus Himself (vs. 18-20), and the Father (vs. 22-24) comfort you?

How can we be more like Paul when he wrote...

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:38-39)

4. What is the world's definition of peace? Where do people seek peace? (let's be real...have you ever escaped to the pantry to eat chocolate???) Is the peace that the world offers lasting? What kind of peace does Jesus offer? (v. 27) What does it triumph over?