



THE JOURNEY HOME

If you have a pattern of having someone share their *Story of Faith* (life before Jesus, encountering Jesus, life since/lately with Jesus) and/or sharing *Evidences of God's grace*, begin with that, followed by a time of thankful prayer for Christ's work in the individual's life and/or the grace in your lives.

OPENING COMMENT

Deep within the hearts of every human, there is a longing for 'home'. There is a constant restlessness when the heart does not feel at home. Jesus makes it clear that our home, where we belong, is with Him.

What stood out to you from Sunday's text and sermon?

READ THE TEXT: John 13:36-14:3

³⁶Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." ³⁷Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ³⁸Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.

14 ¹"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 and 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. ..."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the following statement "You were made by God and for God, until we understand that, life will never make sense" - Rick Warren. Genesis 1 tell us about our purpose, the reason we exist; created to worship God; enjoy God; to image



- God to the world; to work and live with God. How have we compartmentalized God? Is He your greatest priority, secondary, or farther down the list of your life?
2. Take some time to examine Peter's dialogue with Jesus. Sound familiar? Peter doesn't seem that interested in the "new commandment" Jesus just shared with them (13:34-35). But is very interested in, and upset about Jesus "going away". There is definite absurdity, irony and naiveté about what Peter was suggesting. Have you ever found yourself being like Peter? Have you ever found that your self-assessment and intentions are inferior to your abilities?
 3. Jesus predicts that Peter would deny Jesus 3 times before the rooster crows. That would have been an excruciating blow to the personality of Peter. But notice this, the first words out of Jesus mouth after he calls out Peter (14:1-3) Jesus knew there would be troubles ahead. What can we learn about Jesus and his mission through this passage? What could Peter do for himself?
 4. Read Philippians 1:21. Paul makes a faith in Christ statement, something he truly believed. What circumstance did Paul find himself in when he made this declaration? What can we learn from Paul's foundation and belief?
 5. The road of life can be hard, but the destination of being home with God makes it worth the journey. Read Romans 8:16. What are the truths about God that can be found in this text? What confidence can you have and hold on to, as a follower of Jesus?

CONCLUSION

This week's text shows more assurance and comfort for the disciples (and for us). We can have confidence that Jesus came to earth and when He accomplished His mission of mercy, He would be gone, but He will come again! What is your confidence in life and even death built on? Remember God loves the broken. His grace will follow you into the deepest, darkest, ugliest places in your life. He offers redemption and healing to us all.

SHARE & PRAY

- Share how you can pray for each other in light of what this text has impressed upon you. Take some time to discern how you might serve as individuals and as a group.
- The Lead Team is sensing the Lord calling Central to plant two local campuses this year (Lake Errock and Promontory). They want your involvement in this exploration by inviting your participation at a Vision Night on Sunday, April 23. Between now and then, we ask for you to commit this to prayer as individuals and as a Life Group.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, for the areas of growth and grace you are seeking, and the needs among you.

