



JESUS SAVES, SANCTIFIES & SENDS

Invite the group to share what they did on Easter weekend. Ask if anyone found this Easter season especially significant. Were the Lent Guides helpful? Did some sort of a fast over the season of Lent help bring greater awareness and preparation leading up to Easter?

OPENING COMMENT

This Easter we dwell on what Jesus did *for* us in salvation, does *in* us in sanctification, and does *through* us in sending us to (astonishingly!) do even greater works than Jesus as His Church in the world.

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

READ THE TEXT: John 14:4-31

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... *cont. through verse 31*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you respond to Jesus' claim to be *the way* and not simply a way? Why is this such a stumbling block for a lot of people?
2. When Jesus says, "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me*" (v.6) what is exclusive about His statement? What is inclusive about it?
3. There is a recurring theme in John 14, "*If you love me, you will keep my commandments*" (v.15); "*Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me*" (v.21); "*If anyone loves me, he will keep my word*" (v.23). Following every one of these statements is a promise that God will love them and provide the Spirit and the Son to them. It does not say, "*If you obey Him God will love you*" but "*If you love Him you will obey Him*".
Discuss the relationship between the commands given and the *helper* promised (lit. one called alongside to help, as in a legal advocate). What is encouraging about this?
4. Share how you have seen God's sanctifying work in one another's lives. In other words, what evidence of godly growth have you witnessed in each other over the last number of weeks and months (and if you have known each other long enough, over the last few years as well)?
5. What does Jesus mean by the phrase, "*whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do*" (v.12a)? Why do these works depend on Jesus "*going to the Father*" (v.12b)? Consider Acts 1-2 as you discuss this.
6. How will disciples of Jesus accomplish these works, and what is their purpose?

CONCLUSION

John 14-17 is the longest discourse on the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the whole Bible. The Holy Spirit as the third person of the Trinity has always been active in the world but after Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension, the Spirit indwells believers with the truth and power of the risen Christ. When we accept Jesus Christ as *the way, the Truth, and the life* we will receive *another Helper* to dwell in us to comfort, counsel, and advocate for us, making us more like Christ in Word and deed, and making us effective in His service as His disciples/the Church at all times and in all places.

SHARE & PRAY

- Praise God together for His sanctifying work in your lives. Ask Him to continue that work through the Holy Spirit's working as you submit your lives to His authority in His Word.



- The Lead Team sense 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.

COMING UP THIS SATURDAY (APRIL 22nd): BAPTISM & MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP CLASS



COMING UP THIS SUNDAY (APRIL 23rd): VISION NIGHT

