



## A Closer Look at Jesus, John 16

1/21/11

**<sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.**

### John 16

<sup>1</sup> "All this I have told you so that you will not fall away.

- Why would what Jesus said in ch.15 help keep the disciples from not falling away or giving up? Does this help us today, why?

<sup>2</sup> They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God. <sup>3</sup> They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. <sup>4</sup> I have told you this, so that when their time comes you will remember that I warned you about them. I did not tell you this from the beginning because I was with you, <sup>5</sup> but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' <sup>6</sup> Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. <sup>7</sup> But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

- How can we possibly be better off with Jesus not here walking the earth with us?

<sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> about sin, because people do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. <sup>12</sup> "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. <sup>13</sup> But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. <sup>15</sup> All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."

- Who is this "Advocate" or "Spirit of Truth" and what makes him so special? How does that help us?

## The Disciples' Grief Will Turn to Joy

<sup>16</sup> Jesus went on to say, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me." <sup>17</sup> At this, some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" <sup>18</sup> They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying." <sup>19</sup> Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'?" <sup>20</sup> Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. <sup>21</sup> A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. <sup>22</sup> So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. <sup>23</sup> In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. <sup>24</sup> Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

- In vs.18-22 Jesus talks about the path He must take to save us from our sin. The joy the disciples experienced was in seeing the supernatural resurrection of Jesus. Nothing in the world can rob us of this joy. We did not experience the physical resurrection of Jesus, but that same joy is ours if we believe the written word of God. Why does this bring us joy?

<sup>25</sup> "Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. <sup>26</sup> In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. <sup>27</sup> No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. <sup>28</sup> I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."

- Because of what Jesus did we now have access to God just like Jesus for any need we have. Do you believe that we can have anything we pray for, does prayer really work?

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. <sup>30</sup> Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God." <sup>31</sup> "Do you now believe?" Jesus replied. <sup>32</sup> "A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

- Jesus had confidence to do everything He did and finish God's plan for His life because He knew God was always with Him. The reason we are usually afraid to act on what we know God wants us to do is because we are not fully convinced that God is with us and we want others to accept us. What are some reasons we doubt whether God is really with us?

<sup>33</sup> "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

**Challenge:**

- **Establish your heart this week on the fact that Jesus opened a door between you and God. That God is always with you, He has a plan for your life, and He has fully equipped you to accomplish that plan.**
  
- **Jesus said that He told the disciples these things so that they would have peace “in HIM”. If you do not have true peace in your life maybe you need to look at the challenge above and ask God to help make these things a reality to you.**