



Small Group Notes - John 14:22-31

Some groups may find the following suggested questions a helpful starting point. Don't feel bound by them, rather work at understanding God's word for yourselves, praying that God will help you live in the light of it.

Introduction

Over the last weeks we have been reflecting on what it looks like to place our whole lives in Jesus' hands. We have considered why we might do that and we started to see what it looks like when we do that. This week Jesus teaches us further what we should expect.

1. If we were to ask people on the high street in Truro to tell us what it would be like if they followed Jesus, what different things might they say?
2. If a non-Christian asked you what it might be like to follow Jesus, what different things might you say?

*The disciples expectations about following Jesus were being turned upside down. Isaiah 40 tells us what we should expect when the Messiah comes. **Why not read a few verses of that prophecy? (verses 3-5.)***

3. Given these expectations, why are Jesus' words in 14:17 confusing for the disciples and why do they lead to Judas' question.

Read The Passage

Following Jesus is often quite different from what we might expect. Read 14:22-31 and listen to Jesus as he teaches us what we should expect.

Promise One - Verses 23-24

4. What is Jesus' first promise to his disciples in these verses?
5. What is required of us?

Promise Two - Verses 25-26

6. What does this promise teach us, firstly about the inspiration of the New Testament?

These apostles (plus Paul who had his own encounter with the risen Christ) wrote the New Testament. This promise by Jesus guarantees that what they teach.

7. How does this promise secondly encourage us?

Promise Three - Verses 27

8. How does Jesus' leaving mean we can experience this peace?

Conclusion

It is an amazing picture we have been given. Jesus is going to his Father and the fulfilment of Isaiah 40 is still ahead. But while we wait for Jesus' final revelation of Himself to the whole world, He pours out his Spirit into our lives. We have the guarantee of the New Testament scriptures and the Spirit in us to give us understanding. We are blessed with another worldly peace that comes through Jesus' death on the cross.

We should turn to thank God for these things in prayer and ask him to help us live in them. But before we do, notice finally in verses 28-31 Jesus does answer Judas' question more directly. Jesus is saying these things now so that the disciples will see, and He is going to the cross in obedience to the Father, that the world might know the truth.

Why not turn to pray for one another now in light of all we have seen.