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# DISCUSSION GUIDE



# Session 1 – John 13:1-17

### **Conversation Starter**

• When you were younger, how often did your family sit down and eat meals together?

# **Digging Deeper**

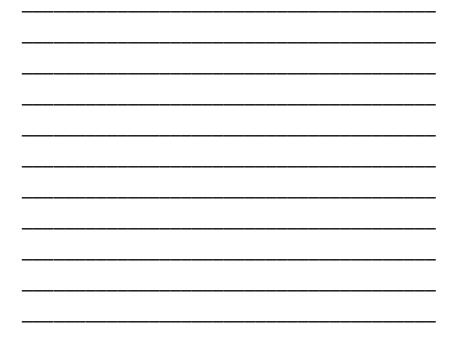
• What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

# Together, open your Bibles and read from John 13:1-17, then watch Session 1.

Famous Last Words. Over the course of these sessions, we are going to be looking at Jesus' famous last words, commonly referred to as the Upper Room Discourse. We are going to be listening to Jesus, watching and learning, in this very deep and engaging time. In these chapters throughout John, Jesus shares some of His most intimate thoughts. We see more clearly into the heart of Jesus. These were His last words. Famous last words. In John 13:1-17, we have a beautiful image of what it means to truly serve, to really care for others. Jesus' washes the disciples' feet.

- What are your first impressions from this section of Scripture?
- What would it mean to practice foot-washing today? What would that look like at home, work, or school?
- Who is one person in your life that has shown you what it means to "wash feet"? What did they do for you? For someone else?
- Peter had a difficult time letting Jesus wash his feet. What if Jesus came to you and wanted to care for you in a personal way, what would he probably do?
- What's one thing you could do this week to follow Jesus' example of serving others?
- How does this passage apply to your life? What will you do about it?

# Praise & Prayer Points





# Session 2 – John 13:31-35

# **Conversation Starter**

• What is one activity that you enjoy doing?

### **Digging Deeper**

• What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

# Together, open your Bibles and read from John 13:31-35, then watch Session 2.

In John 13:34-35, Jesus gives us a new commandment that comes from His love. Jesus' commandment is the new standard by which we are to love others. Love others as I have loved you. Love has a new meaning, and power in our lives. Love serves, it's selfless, love sacrifices.

 What are your first impressions from this section of Scripture?

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35 **Pronounce It!** Read John 13:34-35 several times, stopping after each word or phrase. Which words or phrases stand out most prominently to you? Share your thoughts.

- Take a few minutes and watch the video illustration "One Another" on RightNow Media and share your impressions. www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/illustration/100383
- What have been significant ways in which we have seen or experienced "loving one another" in our small group? What about at home, work, or school?
- How will loving each other show others that we are Jesus' disciples?
- How can we follow Jesus' command to love each other as He has loved us? What are some practical ways we can better love one another?
- How does this passage apply to your life? What will you do about it?

# Praise & Prayer Points



# Session 3 – John 14:1-6

# **Conversation Starter**

 What is your favourite room in your home to hang out? Why?

### **Digging Deeper**

• What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

# Together, open your Bibles and read from John 14:1-6, then watch Session 3.

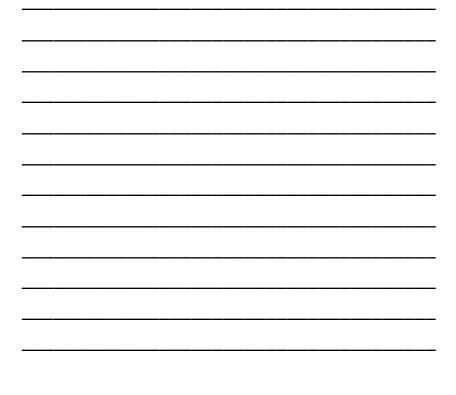
In John 14, Jesus is inviting us to trust in Him as the way, the truth, and the life. Jesus is in the upper room with his disciples. He has just predicted his betrayal, and Peter's denial. Jesus looks at His disciples and He knows what is going on in their minds. They were all a little troubled and upset.

- What are your first impressions from this section of Scripture?
- What comfort does Jesus offer his disciples?
- Does looking forward to heaven help calm you when you're troubled? Why or why not?

**Pronounce It!** Read John 14:6 several times, stopping after each word or phrase. Which words or phrases stand out most prominently to you? Share your thoughts.

- How would you respond to someone who says, "there are many ways to God"?
- Take Jesus' words from verses John 14:6-7 and put them in your own words. Can you think of other words to use?
- What does it mean to know the Father? Would you say that you know the Father? Explain.
- How does this passage apply to your life? What will you do about it?

# Praise & Prayer Points





# Session 4 – John 14:15-27

### **Conversation Starter**

• Who was one of the best counsellors you've ever had? Why was this person so special?

### **Digging Deeper**

• What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

# Together, open your Bibles and read from John 14:15-27, then watch Session 4.

You are not alone. We are not alone. In John 14 Jesus promises us something amazing, something profound, something divine, Jesus promises us the Holy Spirit. Jesus has left the Holy Spirit to help his disciples, we can be certain that the Holy Spirit is here to help us.

- What are your first impressions from this section of Scripture?
- What promise does Jesus make to the disciples and to those who keep His commandments?

- The Holy Spirit is described as "the Encourager," "the Advocate," "the Counselor," the Comforter." How do you relate to Him?
- Does the indwelling of the Holy Spirit help you live the Christian life? In what ways has the Holy Spirit helped you in your journey?
- What does it mean to live by the Spirit? Read Galatians 5:16-26 and discuss.
- How does this passage apply to your life? What will you do about it?

Take a moment and thank God for the Holy Spirit. Thank God for the strength, peace, comfort, and leading and guiding that the Holy Spirit has done in your life.

# Praise & Prayer Points





# Session 5 – John 15:1-11

### **Conversation Starter**

• What is your favourite vegetable to eat?

## **Digging Deeper**

• What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

# Together, open your Bibles and read from John 15:1-11, then watch Session 5.

In John Chapter 15, Jesus introduces us to this image of the vine and the branches and what it means to stay attached to the vine, to abide in him. Jesus gives us a beautiful analogy that would help us understand the relationship God desires to have with us. Jesus explains what it means to be completely dependant on God in the same way branches are connected to the vine for sustaining their life.

- What are your first impressions from this section of Scripture?
- What does abiding in Christ involve for you on a day-to-day basis?

- When is it hard for you to abide in Jesus?
- In what ways does God prune us? Why? Have you experienced God's pruning in your life? How did you respond?
- What fruit does God want us to produce? How do we do that?
- What does friendship with Jesus look like for you? What privileges do we have as Jesus' friends?
- What can you do this week to abide and remain in Jesus?
- How does this passage apply to your life? What will you do about it?

### Praise & Prayer Points



# Session 6 – John 17

# **Conversation Starter**

• Where do you like to go to pray?

# **Digging Deeper**

• What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

# Together, open your Bibles and read from John 17, then watch Session 6.

John Chapter 17 is the longest recorded prayer that we have from Jesus and in this chapter, he pours out his heart, his desires, for himself, his disciples, and for all believers. This is one of the greatest prayers ever prayed. We are invited to listen in as God the Son prays to the Father just before He gives his life up on the cross for you and for me.

- What are your first impressions from this section of Scripture?
- How would you describe Jesus' relationship with the Father?

Why do you think Jesus was interested only in the Father's recognition?

- Which of Jesus' requests for His disciples seem significant to you? Why?
- How does the word of God help us overcome the world?
- How does God sanctify us through His truth?
- As followers of Jesus, how can we demonstrate true unity? What would that look like?
- In what ways do we need to change our priorities to match Jesus?
- How does this passage apply to your life? What will you do about it?

# Praise & Prayer Points





# Session 7 – John 20:8-11

### **Conversation Starter**

• Share of a time when you mistook someone for the wrong person.

# **Digging Deeper**

• What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

# Together, open your Bibles and read from John 20:8-11, then watch Session 7.

In John 20, we read about an encounter between Mary Magdalene and Jesus. Mary is listed among the women who followed Jesus devoutly. Jesus had cast out numerous demons from her, and she followed Jesus to Jerusalem to care for his needs. Mary was close to Jesus. She followed Jesus right up to his moment of death on the cross on Gol-gotha. Right outside Jesus' tomb, everything changes for her. Mary would experience a profound moment. Her sorrow is turned into joy when Jesus appears to her and calls her by name, "Mary."

- What are your first impressions from this section of Scripture?
- How do you think Mary was feeling after Jesus' death? What do you think motivated her to go to the tomb?
- Has your life been more like the darkness of Good Friday or the joy of Easter, or somewhere in between?
- How has Jesus spoken your name in a time of grief or trouble? What effect did it have on you?
- What have you learned about Mary from her experiences at the empty tomb?
- When did you become convinced that Jesus rose from the dead? What convinced you? How has the risen Lord transformed your life?
- How does this passage apply to your life? What will you do about it?

# Praise & Prayer Points

# **FAMOUS** LAST WORDS

A 7-session Lent series leading up to Easter based on John chapters 13-17.

