

# Student MC Guide

April 14, 2024

## The Way of Jesus

JOHN 14:1-14

### Passage

#### Background info about the author, audience, style, etc. that may be of help.

- John 14:1-14 continues the discussion that Jesus is having with his disciples at the “Last Supper” event. Just prior, Jesus washes His disciples feet and He teaches them that He is sent from the Father. Jesus is building up His conversation to make clear for the disciples that something big is about to take place, Jesus is about to “go away” aka, the crucifixion event is about to take place. Jesus realizes that the significance of the events that are about to take place may be overlooked by the disciples, so Jesus (in a sense) is giving His disciples a run-down of the things that are about to happen.
- (14:1) Jesus tells His disciples to not let their hearts be troubled. In the events that are about to take place, the disciples will experience many emotions: fear, anxiousness, sadness, confusion, defeat, rejection and anger. Jesus assures His disciples that they must not let their hearts be troubled. And the connection to not succumbing to troubled hearts is to “trust in God, trust also in Me.” Trust in God is the key to overcoming anxiousness and fear. God has a plan. Even if things may seem out of control, God has a plan. The things that take place around us are not chaos, God oversees and does things for our good. Take for instance the crucifixion that is about to take place; the disciples will see defeat, chaos and confusion, but such things take place according to the will of the Father.
- (14:2-4) Jesus isn’t going away for the sake of leaving; Jesus is going to prepare a place for “you.” Jesus has a plan, He has a purpose for “going away” and that purpose is ultimately for the benefit of believers. Jesus goes to make room in His Father’s house for those who believe. Jesus is the eternal servant because even as He “goes away”, He goes away for our benefit, to do work on our behalf, in obedience to the will of His Father.
- (14:5-7) Thomas asks Jesus where He is about to go. It is in this context where Jesus answers, “I am the way, and the truth and the life.” Jesus is the way to the Father. If we know Jesus then we know the Father. The way to the Father is through the son.
- (14:8-14) Phillip then asks to be shown the Father and that will be “enough” for us. Jesus reassures the disciples that if they have seen Jesus then they have seen the Father. Jesus shows that He and the Father are one via the words Jesus speaks, “The words I say to you are not just my own.” Jesus is obedient to the will of the Father to the point that God’s words are His own words. Jesus also references the miracles He performed as evidence that He and the Father are one. The disciples had seen and been with God in their time spent with Jesus, hearing Jesus’ words and seeing Jesus’ miracles. Jesus is the way to the Father. It is only through Jesus that we can know God. Jesus must wash our feet for us to know God.

### **Other passages in Scripture with similar themes or principles:**

These are passages that could be helpful to draw from for further informing today's text.

- Psalm 26:8, 27:4, 36:8, 84:1-4
- John 10:25-39
- Ephesians 2:19

## *Questions for Discussion*

- What are some events or things that happen in our life that causes our hearts to be troubled?
- What do you envision when you consider the "house of God" where Jesus prepares a place for you?
- Do you think the disciples were understanding the things that Jesus was telling them?
- Around the world, the idea that Jesus is the "only way" may be considered offensive, how can we communicate the utmost uniqueness of Jesus in a world where many ideas of "the way" exist?
- If Oprah asked you, "How do we get to heaven," how would you answer?
- Why do you believe that Jesus and the Father are one?
- Not only does Jesus go and prepare a place, He promises that He will return to take us back with Him to that prepared place, do you look forward to Jesus' triumphant return?



# Fellowship

**Take time to fellowship with each other.**

Ask each other how last week's passage affected your life.

- Would you let Jesus wash your feet?
- Do you find it difficult to allow others to serve you?

# Truths & Promises

**Discuss the following questions**

**What do we learn about God from this text?**

Have members input what the Holy Spirit has revealed to them about who God is from this text.

- God has a house with many rooms and Jesus, being a carpenter, goes to prepare for those who believe in Him, a room. God wants to fellowship with us. God wants us to know the way to have fellowship with Him. The eternal son, Jesus Christ is the only way to God.
- God makes clear the way to have fellowship with Him: Jesus Christ. We have fellowship with God by knowing Jesus Christ. We know God's word by knowing the words of Jesus Christ. We see God's character in the character of Jesus Christ.

**What do we learn about man from this text?**

Have members input what the Holy Spirit has revealed to them about who man is from this text.

- We often have questions. We have the tendency to fall quickly to anxiousness and confusion when things seem out of control.

# Adjustments & Assignments

**Now that a good understanding of who God is and how He relates to man has been established from this passage, how does this impact our lives? What are specific things that each member needs to apply in their life this week? Ask each other how last week's passage affected your life.**

**What is there that we can obey from this text?**

- Trust in God and in Jesus; they know exactly what they are doing, and it is for our benefit.
- No one comes to the Father except through Jesus Christ.
- If you know Jesus then you know the Father.

**Are there commands that still apply to disciples today? If so, what?**

- Yes. All of these still apply to disciples today.

**What applications directly from the passage can be applied this week?**

- Do you believe that Jesus is the only way to God?
- How can you follow the Way this week?

**There may be things that the Holy Spirit is leading us to obey that are not directly from the text, share those as well.**

- Spend an extended personal time of worship through prayer or song.
- Share the truth of Jesus with someone this week.



**Be sure to take time to discuss how you can support and encourage each other in the things God is calling you to apply throughout the week.**

- Ask the question: “How can we help you with that?”

## Care & Encouragement

**Take time to pray together as a Missional Community incorporating the passage into your corporate prayer.**

**Adore God for who He is:**

- He is our provider
- He is trustworthy

**Confess the ways that you have not been faithful to God:**

- When I doubt that Jesus will do “anything” I ask in His name.
- When I doubt God’s provision.

**Thank God for what He has done:**

- God, through Jesus, is preparing a place for us
- God shows us the way to salvation

**Supplication – Pray for those in your MC and outside of your MC:**

- Kingdom: That we can share with our family, friends, co-workers and neighbors.
- Others: That others will listen and understand how Jesus can provide for them.
- Self: To have faith and be confident that Jesus is building us a place in His Father’s house.

**VISION:** to engage 2000 new unchurched neighbor households by 2028.

**MISSION:** We exist to glorify Christ by making disciples of all nations who worship, cultivate biblical community, live a generous life, and multiply disciples.

**VALUES:** Spirit Led / Pursuit of Unity / Kingdom Over Self / Adaptability

