

Week of December 4, 2016

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: Jesus is the eternal Son of God, and all those who believe in him as the way, the truth, and the life can trust him with their lives and their future.

This Week's Text: John 14:1-14

"Some day the silver cord will break, And I no more as now shall sing; But oh, the joy when I shall wake Within the palace of the King! And I shall see Him face to face, And tell the story—Saved by grace; And I shall see Him face to face, And tell the story—Saved by grace. Some day my earthly house will fall. I cannot tell how soon 'twill be; But this I know—my All in All Has now a place in Heav'n for me." From the hymn Saved by Grace by Fanny Crosby

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- Why were the disciples "troubled"? How is it different from the trouble Jesus experienced in John 13:21? What does Jesus tell them will conquer their fears? Have you learned to believe and trust in God's abiding love for you in whatever the circumstances?
- What promise does Jesus give his disciples in verses 2-4? Why does Jesus describe heaven with the analogy of a home with many rooms? What does Jesus mean that he is going to prepare a place for his disciples (and all those who believe in him)? What is the primary joy that all believers will experience in heaven? Reference verse 4.
- What does Jesus mean by his singular exclusive claim, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life?" Discuss how we can faithfully and lovingly communicate these truths in our pluralistic culture. Is there significance to Jesus' use of "I am" in verse 6?
- How does Jesus respond to Philip's statement, "Lord show us the Father"? How did Jesus prove that he is eternally united with the Father? Why is it important to believe in the Trinitarian nature of God?
- How are we Jesus' witnesses to the world? Reference Matthew 5:16 and 1 Peter 2:12. Discuss how we as God's people do the gospel-works that Jesus mentions in this passage. What does Jesus mean by the statement, "and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father"?
- What are some ways you can declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?