

John 14: 1-7 (New International Version 1984, ©1984)

(for context)

13 ³¹ When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him.

³² If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

³³ “My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

³⁴ “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

³⁶ Simon Peter asked him, “Lord, where are you going?”

Jesus replied, “Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.”

³⁷ Peter asked, “Lord, why can’t I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.”

³⁸ Then Jesus answered, “Will you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!

John 14: 1-7

¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God^[b]; trust also in me. ² In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really knew me, you would know^[c] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. ¹² I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Footnotes:

a. John 14:1 Or *You trust in God*

b. John 14:7 Some early manuscripts *If you really have known me, you will know*

OASIS: The Home You Always Wanted, John 14: 1-7

(Note to LC Leaders: This is a “stand alone” study that that can be used to conclude this message series or to summarize it, as it is the final message in the series. Depending on what you have been doing in recent LC meetings, you will want to decide how to balance the two parts—first, a discussion of the big ideas of the rooms and second, a Bible study of the final text for the series.

The first part is a broad discussion of the “rooms” in the “home we have always wanted” --you can choose to discuss these ideas for anywhere from 10 minutes to 45 minutes. The second part is a Bible study of the concluding text in the message series--you can choose to read the passage and summarize the big idea in 10 minutes or have a fuller group study of 30 or 40 minutes. You discern what will best serve your LC.)

Part 1: Discussion of the Various Rooms and their “big idea”:

Let’s see if we can name the different rooms that were dealt with over the last six Sundays.

What were they? What was one of them?

(Kind of like *are you smarter than a 5th grader?* ☺ may be harder than you think!)

Let’s see if we can recall the “big idea” for each room. Who recalls one?

Just in case your people are like me—here is the list:

- 1/9 The Dining Room: where moments are marked
- 1/16 The Kitchen: where everyday grace is shared with others
- 1/23 The Family Room: where faith and values are passed from one generation to another
- 1/31 The Foyer: where people come and go
- 2/6 The Bedroom: where intimacy and individuality are nurtured
- 2/13 The Living Room: where we discuss important things, resolve difficult issues, and restore broken relationships

Let’s talk about these rooms and what they represent for a few minutes:

Any ideas that gripped you?

Any insights that you thought more about? Or didn’t quite understand?

What did you find to be a helpful challenge?

In your home, which are your strong areas?

In your home, which areas would you like to grow in or strengthen?

Any stories of new patterns or practices that you have discussed or started?

Part 2: Discussion of John 14: 1-7, the culminating passage:

Read and Overview observations:

- Begin with 13:31-38 for the context, and read through 14:14 for the full sense of the section. However, our core passage is 14:1-7. Let’s listen as it is read.
- Now take several minutes by yourself to study this passage. Look for repeated words and ideas. Note major contrasts.

Let’s mention (for 2-4 minutes) about some repeated words and ideas you spotted.

Any key contrasts you noticed?

Context (13: 31-38):

- O In 14:1 Jesus tells his disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.” From the context of the previous verses, what are some of the things that might have troubled to the disciples?

Core section (14: 1-7):

- O What does Jesus want his disciples to do?
 - I What do you think it means to “trust in God”: What does it mean for you?
- O What insights does Jesus provide in vs. 2-4 about his upcoming activity and destination?
 - I In what ways is Jesus trying to influence their expectations?
- O In v. 5, what is Thomas’s concern?
 - I How do you feel about Thomas’s question? In what ways is it good? Not so good?
 - A If you were Thomas, what question might you be tempted to ask?
- O What insights does Jesus provide in his reply in vs. 6-7? What does Jesus reveal about his identity and his relationship with his Father?
 - I Jesus is the way to what?
 - A In what ways does this passage help clarify things for you?
 - A What does it mean to you to be reassured that Jesus has prepared a place for you for forever, a place which is with Him and the Father?
 - A If you have never know the comfort of this spiritual reality and reassurance, would you like to place your trust in God’s provision of Jesus for your eternal life right now?
 - A In what ways might your “eternal home with God” exceed even the best of home experiences here and now?

Summary

(Vs. 14: 8-14 continue to develop three of the related themes: 1.the intimate connection between the Father and Jesus, 2. works that Jesus does and that we can do, and 3. that the Son’s brings glory to the Father. Since they are not central to this particular sermon series, we can save them for a later study.)

Prayer together: For two things that flow from 14: 1-7:

- a. that each of us would have a deepening sense that we have a home with God through faith in Christ, and
- b. that as a result of this security, we can live boldly and faithfully now.

Text is on other page or www.Biblegateway.com

- a. BIG idea: we all have a home with God through faith in Christ
- b. Key verse/idea-- John 14: 2: “In my Father’s house are many rooms... a place for you.”
- c. KEY: O = Observation; I = Interpretation; A = Application (or C = Challenge).

Advice to study leaders:

- d. Complement your OIA questions with “process questions” (what else? what more? What do others of you see/think?).
- e. Determine the core questions you’ll ask (know which to skip if pressed for time).
- f. Always reword questions in words that are comfortable for you (and, if the question doesn’t make sense to you, then discard it.)
- g. When you ask questions, give people ample time to think and respond. How long do you wait? Take your time; don’t rush people but encourage their participation. And avoid answering your own questions!
- h. Timing/pacing: allocate your time and move forward gently, with a steady pace.
- i. Application: Pace the study to conclude with “difference making” application.
- j. Secondary texts—use other texts very sparingly, even if they are relevant. Otherwise, other texts will push you more into the “teacher role,” rather than that of “informed guide.” It also can cause people to feel distracted or disempowered.
- k. If you are utilizing this “on-line” study and not part of the OASIS course, I recommend that you get the 1-volume commentary entitled New Bible Commentary, Revised (21st Century Edition, IVP). It is well worth the \$40.