

Message-based Study

Video is available online at messages.visitccc.com

Connection

Tell about a special meal you remember sharing with someone. What made it memorable?

Cheer and Challenge

How did it go living out your "I will..." statement from last week? Share your experience.

Tell about any experiences you had this week following through on the B.L.E.S.S. challenge.

Content

Setting the scene: Before we explore the things Jesus taught while in the Upper Room, take notice of the scene, as it is set in Luke 22: 7-15. Write a description of what you picture, creatively describing what you imagine the setting to look and feel like:

1. Read John 14:1-21. In John 14:1 Jesus introduces this section of His teaching with the phrase, "Don't let your hearts be troubled." Why did He say this? What was coming that might be troubling to the disciples?

When was a time in your life when your heart was troubled? How does this compare to what the disciples would face in the upcoming days?

Jesus proclaims, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life," and promises to send the Spirit to be in us.

The Holy Spirit dwelling within believers is a continuation of Jesus as the Way, Truth and Life.

2. Spirit of TRUTH - Revealing

What do these verses tell us about the Holy Spirit's role in our lives?

John 14:16-17

John 15:26

John 16:13-15

How do you discern the Holy Spirit's voice from your own voice? And from the voice of the Enemy?

3. ***Spirit of LIFE - Indwelling***

In John 16:5-7 Jesus is describing the unfolding of the New Covenant which was prophesied in Ezekiel 36:26-27. Read both of these sections and summarize below what is being said about the Holy Spirit.

Do you know anything about how this differs from the activity of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament? (Note here anything you know from previous study.)

What do the following verses tell us about the effect of the Holy Spirit living within believers?

Galatians 5:22-25

II Timothy 1:7

4. ***Spirit of the WAY - Journeying***

Your faith impacts your mind, body and spirit. If you are a Believer, the Holy Spirit is part of your physical reality; He is *with* you as you journey through life. Jesus set the example for us of how this works. Write a short statement summarizing what He said in John 5:19.

What is an example from your life of a time when you followed the nudge of the Holy Spirit?

5. Here in the Upper Room, Jesus is delivering a hope-filled message about the Holy Spirit! Why would this have been encouraging for these Christ-followers to hear at this point right before Jesus' death on the cross?

How can this message about the Holy Spirit bring *you* hope today, with the things you are facing?

Commitment

How will the Holy Spirit's revealing, indwelling and journeying with you make a difference in your life this week?

"I will _____."



Begin with prayer. Listen with care. Eat with another. Serve them. Share your story.

Matthew 10:19-20 tells us that the Holy Spirit gives us the words as we open our mouths to speak about Jesus! Take a moment to pray for an opportunity to **share your story** with someone this week. Ask the Lord for the words to say.

Continue Digging Deeper

1. What are some of the roles of the Holy Spirit? Read the verses below and write down what you learn.

- John 14:26
- John 16:7-8
- I Corinthians 3:16
- Romans 8:26-27
- Romans 15:13

How have you experienced the work of the Spirit in your life? Do you depend on the Spirit and live from the strength of the Spirit as you should? What are ways that you might cultivate living by Spirit?

Optional Resource:

“What is the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives today?” <https://www.gotquestions.org/Spirit-today.html>

2. Read Jesus’ prayer for the disciples in John 17:6-18 and pay careful attention to verse 17. How can you be sanctified in truth? Look up the word “sanctify” for clarity and write down what you learn about truth.

Next, read Colossians 4:6. God calls us to live out both truth and grace in our words and actions. Do you tend to lean more towards grace or truth? What steps can you take to counterbalance your current thoughts, words and actions so that you reflect both?

Optional resource:

Sanctify ~ https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/smith_chuck/SermonNotes_Jhn/Jhn_113.cfm

3. Jesus made the claim that He is the way, the truth and the life in John 14:6. How are these 3 interconnected and how do they affect following Jesus?

WAY - Read John 3:16 to hear how Jesus is the way to the Father. Pray Psalm 86:11 and ask God to show you the way the you should go.

TRUTH - How do you understand the difference between things that seem true for some people (relative truth) and things that are always true for everyone (absolute truth)? Look up Bible verses that talk about truth using the concordance in the back of a Bible or use online resources. What did you discover about the truth of God?

Dallas Willard once said that it is very difficult to have the truth but not hurt anybody with it. Explain what he means in your own words. Have you ever been hurt by the truth? What does it mean to “speak the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15, NLT)?

LIFE - In John 10, Jesus says: “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” What do you think Jesus meant or how would you describe “life to the full”? Is He talking about material possessions or spiritual things? Or both?

4. Go for a walk if you are able. In Galatians 5, you are invited to walk with the Spirit and stay in step. Walk in silence and just listen. Notice the rhythm of your breathing and the sound of your footsteps. Ask God to keep you in step with the Spirit that you would not run ahead or lag behind. Lastly, listen to a favorite worship song or sing as you walk to meditate on what you have learned. Try to keep in step with the music.

“Move(Keep Walking)” by Toby Mac ~ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MX1G71WK-FA> “In the Garden” by Kelly Minter ~ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0M-AAH6J0s>