



### **Read the Gospel**

Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.

Scripture passage: John 14

In our world today we struggle with the issues of turmoil and turbulence. With troubled souls, many look for just a glimpse of hope in a world of chaos and uncertainty. The circumstances surrounding the last days of Christ on earth were turbulent, as well. Though their world brimmed with conflict, challenge, and clutter, Jesus spoke words of reassurance and hope. The reality to be grasped is that the unfolding circumstance in the world is tribulation, but the unchanging assurance in Christ is triumph. These truths from Jesus tether our hearts and minds in troubled days, and if we will choose to believe, we can live waiting with the hope of Jesus our Savior.

# Pray for the Work of the Gospel

Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- **Praise** God for the hope we have in Jesus.
- **Repent** from any doubt or fear caused by a lack of trust in Jesus.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you place expectant hope in Jesus, not in your circumstances.
- Yield to the Holy Spirit as you wait in hope.

### **Engage in the Gospel**

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion with your Life Group.

#### Read John 14:1-3.

- Jesus begins John 14 by telling His disciples not to be troubled. What two reasons did the disciples have for being troubled? (See John 13)
- The entire theme of the Upper Room Discourse, found in John 13-16, deals with the unfolding of turbulent circumstances kept secure by the unchanging assurance of Jesus. Specifically, how had Jesus been preparing His followers for the uncertainty that was approaching?
- How have you experienced Jesus preparing you for the uncertainty of turbulent circumstances both now and in the past?
- Elmer Towns said, "Jesus knew a troubled heart would eat away at faith, but faith would calm a troubled heart." Discuss how worry, trouble, and fear destroy faith. How does a strong faith calm a troubled heart? Read these verses and others you may know about faith that support this truth. (John 11:40, Romans 10:17, Romans 15:13, Ephesians 3:16-20, James 1:6)



- Compare John 14:1-3 with John 16:33. As you read these verses, notice that the phrase, "in me," occurs in both chapters. What does Jesus mean by the phrase "in me"? From where was freedom from trouble and the blessings of peace to come? (See Psalm 46:1, Isaiah 26:3, John 14:27, Philippians 4:6-7)
- What does prayer and abiding in Christ have to do with peace? (See John 15, Philippians 4:6-7)
- John 14:1-3, 18, 23, and 28 speaks of a real place that God the Father is preparing for believers. How are you filled with hope knowing that there is more to come than what you see today? Does the thought of heaven bring you comfort? (See Revelation 21-22)
- **Read John 14:4-6**. Do you know where you're going when you leave this earth? How do you know? Is there someone you know who needs to believe in Jesus so they can know the way to heaven? Will you share the Gospel found in John 14:6 with them this week?
- **Read John 14:15-18, 25-26.** What are we to do until we go to heaven, and what did Jesus promise He would do to help us?
- What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit? How have you experienced the power of the Holy Spirit working in you in recent days? When have you experienced His sustaining power in weakness?
- **Read John 14:27.** Even though the world is filled with resources, it cannot give us the hope, consolation, and peace that Jesus gives. Describe the peace Jesus offers. Is it based on resources or relationship?
- *Shalom* is the Hebrew word for peace and means "wholeness, completion, security, and well-being." What would this kind of peace do for your family, your marriage, your job, your finances, or your mind?
- As you await the return of Christ, will you place your hope in His promise of safe passage through this life, His provision of power to keep you going in life, and the reality of His peace in the troubles of life? What steps will you take to access this hope?

# Live the Gospel

These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader's responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately a disciple-maker.

- Who will you identify, invest in, and invite into your home this week with the intention of sharing John 14:6?
- Will you choose to access the power of the Holy Spirit in a particularly difficult area of your life this week? What will you do to remind yourself to tap into the Spirit's power?

#### Joshua Code memory verse:

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before me." – Exodus 20:2-3

