

Following Jesus
Last Lessons
John 14-16

I. Message

a. **Believe in Me**

i. "14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."

1. What is the first thing settle your troubled heart? Believe in Jesus

2. Do you?

a. Saving faith includes repentance from sin and trusting Jesus alone for forgiveness and eternal life

b. Those that have accepted His free gift of salvation by faith are the true believers

i. MANY people claim to be Christian

ii. Claim to have always believed in God

iii. Jesus says, "Take that a step further"

iv. You believe in God? **Believe in ME**

ii. IF you are a true believer in Jesus Christ

1. He is preparing a place for you – v.2

2. And He will come back to get you – v.3

3. "14:6 I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

iii. Have you believed in Jesus as the only way?

1. This was the whole point of John writing his book

a. **John 20:31**

b. Do you have life through the name of Jesus?

c. It takes COMPLETE dependence

d. Trusting anything else is unacceptable to God!

b. **Obey me**

i. "14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments."

ii. It's that simple

iii. These two are inseparable

1. If you love Him

2. Obey Him

3. **John 14:21-24**

iv. Notice the progression

1. Have the commandments

2. Then keep them

3. It proves your love for Jesus – v.21

4. And results in a more personal love from God – v.23

5. **Deuteronomy 13:3-4**

c. Listen for me

- i. "14:25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."
- ii. One of the classic passages on inspiration
 1. He would remind them what Jesus said so they could write down
 2. He reminds us what they wrote down!
- iii. The Holy Spirit points to Jesus through His Word
 1. John 16:7-13
 2. They could not handle all the truth right then and there
 - a. So, Jesus said you have to KEEP LISTENING
 - b. God has big plans for His people!
 - i. Romans 8:29
 - ii. Romans 10:17

d. Abide in me

- i. John 15:1-5
- ii. How do you know if you are abiding in Christ?
 1. You are being purged – pruned by God for more fruitfulness – v.2
 2. You are bringing forth fruit! – measurable results – v.5
 3. Your prayers are answered – v.7
- iii. The word abide means to take up permanent residence
 1. Ironically, you might have to find ways to get off grid physically and mentally
 2. So, you can abide (permanently dwell with Jesus) spiritually

e. Follow (exemplify) me

- i. John 15:18-21
- ii. What example did Jesus give us?
 1. The evil world hated Him
 2. The evil world persecuted Him
 3. The evil world rejected Him
 4. But that should not surprise us!
- iii. How did Jesus describe following?
 1. Luke 9:23-24
 2. Self-denial
 3. Cross-bearing
 4. Following Jesus is not for the faint of heart!
 - a. Are you willing to lose your life for my sake?
 - b. Accept the challenge! Follow my example explicitly!

f. Testify of me

i. "15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: 27 **And ye also shall bear witness**, because ye have been with me from the beginning."

1. The Great Commission (testifying of Jesus) is for every believer
2. Can you articulate the gospel well enough to lead someone to Jesus?
3. Can you articulate your own testimony well enough to lead someone to Jesus?
4. **The testimony challenge**

g. Wait for me

i. "16:16 A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father...22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."

ii. Communion

iii. 1 Corinthians 11:26 "ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

iv. Last message in this series – the Return of Jesus

1. He is coming back
2. Sooner than we think

h. Talk to me

i. "16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

ii. Look through the book of Acts

1. The early church prayed...fervently!
2. Clearly missed Jesus
3. Filled that gap by praying
4. This is what Jesus is saying:
5. Talk to me about everything!

i. Rest in me

i. "16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

ii. The world is a mess

iii. It is going to resist Christianity

iv. It is going to persecute righteousness

v. But Jesus has overcome all of it

1. You can be quietly confident
2. You can rest
3. I've already won the game
4. There is no chance of a comeback by Satan