

“The Gospel of John: One with the Father”

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November 26th, 2023

Scripture

John 14:7-14

“If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; **from now on you know Him and have seen Him.**”

Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us."

Jesus said to him, "**Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me**, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

"**Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?** The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.

"**Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me**; otherwise believe because of the works themselves.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do**; because I go to the Father.

"**Whatever you ask in My name**, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. "If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it."

Last Week

Jesus has eleven young men who are downcast and despairing

How can He pick up their spirits?

By reassuring them that they He will provide for them when it counts -> He IS the WAY!

We should also be reassured

This Week

Jesus instructs the remaining eleven about an important truth

In case they missed it prior in all His teaching about His divinity

They need to know -> they have a relationship with the Father God

Jesus is the same as the Father

You Know the Father

John 14:7

“If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; **from now on you know Him and have seen Him.**”

The disciples had often noted that Jesus was divine

In some cases, they received inspiration from Heaven that Jesus was God -> **Matthew 16 with Peter**

Matthew 16:15-17

“[Jesus] said to them, **“But who do you say that I am?”** Simon Peter answered, **“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”** And Jesus said to him, **“Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”**

Peter had direct revelation from the Father!

But did they completely understand who Jesus was? -> “He was born on the earth, how can he be God?”

Many in our modern world and even in the church do not understand who Jesus is

Jesus taught similarly to the Jews in John 8:

John 8:18-19

“I am He who testifies about Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies about Me.” So, they were saying to Him, **“Where is Your Father?”** Jesus answered, **“You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also.”**

“If you knew Me, you would know My Father also.” -> to the Jews

“If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also” -> to the disciples

It’s the same statement by Jesus

What does that tell us? -> **Jesus presented the same truth and teaching to everyone**

To the Jews, it became their undoing

To the disciples, it became their treasure

Jesus needs to inform the disciples that they know God, personally

Last week’s message focused on Jesus as the Way to the Father – **John 14:6**

This week’s message focuses on the fact that Jesus IS the same One AS the Father

Philip doesn’t quite grasp what Jesus is saying:

Show Him to Us!

John 14:8

“Philip said to Him, **“Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.”**

How many times have I heard -> “I would believe in Jesus if I could just see Him!”

Have you ever wanted to see God move right in front of your eyes?

Would you believe Him even more if you could see evidence of His work?

How many of you have seen Him work in your life to KNOW He is real and active in the world?

People have wanted God to reveal Himself to them throughout time

Exodus 33:17-23 (Moses wanting to see God's glory)

"The LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing of which you have spoken; for you have found favor in My sight and I have known you by name." Then **Moses said, "I pray You, show me Your glory!"** And He said, "I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion."

But He said, "**You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!**" Then the LORD said, 'Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand there on the rock; and it will come about, while My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. Then I will take My hand away and **you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen.**'"

Moses found favor with God

God graciously revealed Himself to Moses

God reveals Himself to us through Jesus, as Paul wrote:

Colossians 1:13-19

"For He rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. **He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.**

For **by Him all things were created**, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- **all things have been created through Him and for Him.**

He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. **For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him"**

What do we learn from Paul here?

- Jesus is the image of the invisible father
- All things are created by Jesus and for Jesus
- Jesus is before all things
- The Father's plan – and His joy – was for all His fullness to dwell in Jesus

Paul wrote Colossians long after Jesus went to the cross

Naturally, Jesus wants the disciples to know this information before Paul wrote about it

The Father and I are One

John 14:9-10

"Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and **yet you have not come to know Me, Philip?** He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? "**Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?"**

God is -> JUST LIKE ME!

Have the disciples seen what Jesus has done?

The Father and God was not visible to them -> He was still difficult to understand

Jesus must teach them

Jesus asks, **“Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?”**

It is a rhetorical question – He does not expect an answer

Is it easy to believe in Jesus?

Even if you have watched Him perform miracles?

Mark 9:23-24 (Jesus to a father of a boy with a demon)

“Jesus said to him, **“If You can?’ All things are possible to him who believes.**” Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, **‘I do believe; help my unbelief.’”**

The man knew of Jesus’s reputation -> “If You can?” -> **could he believe in Jesus in a crisis situation?**

That’s a great question for all of us, isn’t it?

When a crisis hits in your life, do you steadfastly believe in Jesus?

Or are you more like the father of this boy, pleading for help in order to truly believe?

Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, we sang earlier, just to trust Him at His word

Standing on the promises, we sang earlier -> **do you actually do that?**

Or does doubt creep into your mind?

Simply Believe Me

John 14:10-11

“The words that I say to you **I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves.”**

Jesus told the disciples, “If you’re not going to believe in Me or My words, at least look at what I’ve done!”

John 6:44

“No one can come to Me **unless the Father who sent Me draws him**”

If you believe and trust Jesus, it is because the Father has drawn you into belief emboldened by the Holy Spirit’s presence in you

Have you been drawn to Jesus?

If so, you should trust Him implicitly and stand on His promises

Having belief in Jesus should empower you

Fear should go away

Anxiety should go away

Doubt should go away

Hope should be preeminent

Belief brings other things, too:

Belief Brings Greatness

John 14:12

“Truly, truly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.”**

This passage has confused many for centuries

What does it mean, “greater works than these he will do”?

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead!

Were the disciples going to do greater works than raising Lazarus?

No, Jesus is not talking about the disciples having greater power

He is talking about greater breadth or greater extent

The reason why the disciples will do greater works is because Jesus is “go(ing) to the Father”

Jesus’s earthly ministry is over

The disciples’ earthly ministry is just about to begin

Belief brings greater works

Matthew 17:18-20 (Jesus casting a demon out of a boy)

“Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured at once. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, **“Why could we not drive it out?”** And He said to them, **“Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and **nothing will be impossible to you.**”**

The disciples could not cast out the demon out of the boy -> Jesus had to do it

Why couldn’t the disciples remove the demon?

Matthew answers that in the next verse:

Matthew 17:21

“But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

God is the one with all the power

The disciples did not have the power needed for the victory

No Holy Spirit inside of them -> yet!

Yet, some had the power to cast out demons:

Luke 10:17-20

“The seventy returned with joy, saying, “**Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.**” And He said to them, “I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. **Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you.**” Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.”

Why could some cast out demons and the disciples could not?

It is based on God’s will -> If it is His will, it shall be done

1 John 5:14

“This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, **if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.** And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.”

God’s will WILL be done

Jesus continues this teaching:

Belief Enables Prayer

John 14:13-14

“**Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.**” If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.”

Many of us use the phrase “In Jesus name”

What does that mean?

Is Jesus’s name some kind of incantation like calling upon a genie to grant us our wishes?

No, we need to be clear about this

Asking in Jesus’s name:

- 1) Asking for God’s will to be done, not your own selfish purposes
- 2) Trusting in God’s authority to fulfill the prayer request
- 3) For God’s glory and not our own

Mark 11:24

“Therefore, I say to you, **all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them,** and they will be granted you.”

Belief activates prayer

Belief enables prayer

Prayer

Benediction