

- **Wiersbe**¹² – “A machine can produce results, and so can a robot, but it takes a living organism to produce fruit. It takes time and cultivation to produce fruit; a good crop does not come overnight....We are not producing fruit to please ourselves but to serve others....Man-made results are dead and cannot reproduce themselves, but Spirit-produced fruit will go on reproducing from one life to another. There will be fruit – more fruit – much fruit.”

15:12-17 – Disciples are to love one another

- v12 & v17 bracket this section with the command – love one another.
- v15 → 13:19 & 14:29 re: knowing what will happen
- we are the “fruit” of Jesus' disciples

15:18-25 – Disciples and the World

- We should expect to be treated similarly to how Jesus was treated
- This treatment is a result of ignorance concerning God
- This too is a fulfillment of prophecy – Psa 35:19; 69:4

15:26-27 – The Spirit's Testimony from the Father about Jesus

- refers back to 14:26

There and Then → Here and Now

Answer the questions below as you reflect on your own life and this part of our study*: *my LOG vs others SPECK*

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| S – Is there a <i>sin</i> for me to avoid or confess? | Are there <i>principles</i> to guide? |
| P – Is there a <i>promise</i> from God for me to claim? | Are there <i>warnings</i> to heed? |
| E – Is there an <i>example</i> for me to follow? | Are there <i>attitudes</i> to adopt? |
| C – Is there a <i>command</i> for me to obey? | Are there <i>actions</i> to take? |
| K – How can this passage increase my <i>knowledge</i> about God / Jesus / Holy Spirit? | |

Write down any thoughts you may have and develop an action plan for implementing them into your life.

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¹² (Wiersbe) on John 15.

* *Navigator Bible Study Handbook* (with additions) & Matthew 7:1-5.

Who is Jesus? – The Gospel of John

Chapter 14

14:1-6 – Jesus comforts the disciples (continuation of 13:36ff)

- Jesus reassures the disciples that His leaving is temporary and that He is going to prepare a place for them to be with Him in heaven
- Jesus the earthly carpenter will build our eternal spiritual home
- **Wiersbe**¹ – “According to Jesus, heaven is a real place. It is not a product of religious imagination or the result of psyched-up mentality, looking for 'pie in the sky by and by.' Heaven is the place where God dwells and where Jesus sits today at the right hand of the Father.”
- **G3438**² *μονή*, *monē*, *mon-ay'* – (v2, dwelling places; v23, abode – NASB); **Wiersbe** – “It simply means 'rooms, abiding places,' so we must not think in terms of manor houses. It is unfortunate that some unbiblical songs have perpetuated the error that faithful Christians will have lovely mansions in glory, while worldly saints will have to be content with little cottages or shacks. Jesus Christ is now preparing places for all true believers.”
- Thomas' question is similar to Peter's – still thinking of the physical not the spiritual
- 7th I AM statement – the way, and the truth, and the life
 - **Believer's Bible Commentary**³ – “He **is the way**. Salvation is in a Person. Accept that Person as your own, and you have salvation. Christianity is Christ. The Lord Jesus is not just one of many ways. He is the *only* Way....Then the Lord is **the truth**. He is not just One who teaches the truth; He **is the truth**. He is the embodiment of Truth. Those who have Christ have the Truth. It is not found anywhere else....Christ Jesus is **the life**. He is the source of life, both spiritual and eternal. Those who receive Him have eternal life because He *is* the Life.”
- Re: Access to God – Act 4:8-12; Eph 2:11-22; 1Pe 1:20-21

14:7-14 – Jesus reveals the Father

- Jesus makes clear the connection between the Father and the Son
- Just as Jesus had power from God, so too, we will have power from the Father in Jesus' name
 - **Wiersbe**⁴ – “Of course, it is not the believer *himself* who does these 'greater' things; it is God working in and through the believer...[Mar 16:20; Php 2:13]....Faith and works must always go together, for it is faith that releases the power of God in our lives....to know God's name means to know His nature, what He is, and what He wants to do. God answers prayer in order to honor His name: therefore, prayer must be in His will (1 John 5:14-15)....Any request that does not glorify God's name should not be asked in His name.”

¹ (Wiersbe) on John 14.

² (Strong; Zhodiates, Baker, and Carpenter) on G3438. (Wiersbe) on John 14:2, 23.

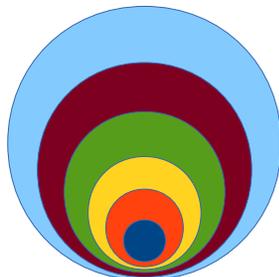
³ (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 14.

⁴ (Wiersbe) on John 14:12-14.

- **IVPBB⁵** – “In this context “name” means something like: those who seek his glory and speak accurately for him, who are genuinely his authorized representatives. Nothing could be further from the pagan magical use of names that sought to manipulate spiritual forces for one’s own ends.”
- **v12-14 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. 13 Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.”

14:15-17 – *Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit* – [more in chapter 16]

- The Holy Spirit is to be a helper.
- Re: Power in the Spirit
 - *the 3*: Mat 17 & 26; Mar 5 & 9; Luke 8 & 9
 - *the 12*: Mat 10; Mar 6; Luk 9 [received specific authority over unclean spirits and to cast out demons, heal every kind of disease and sickness]
 - *the 70/72*: Luk 10 [Luke doesn't list the specific authority given to them but the disciples speak about the demons being subject to them in Jesus name in v17]



- This is different from gifts in 1Co 12-14, Rom 12, & Eph 4, etc.
- G3875⁶ παράκλητος, paraklētos, *par-ak'-lay-tos*
 - **Strong's** – An intercessor, consoler: - advocate, comforter.
 - **Complete Word Study Dictionary & Bible** – “It is properly a verbal adj. referring to an aid of any kind. In the Greek writers, used of a legal advisor, pleader, proxy, or advocate, one who comes forward in behalf of and as the representative of another. Thus, in 1Jn 2:1, Christ is termed our substitutionary, intercessory advocate. Christ designates the Holy Spirit as Paraclete (14:16), and calls Him *állos* (G243), another, which means another of equal quality and not *héteros* (G2087), another of a different quality. Therefore, the Holy Spirit is designated by Jesus Christ as equal with Himself, i.e., God (1Jn 2:1). This new Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, was to witness concerning Jesus Christ (14:26; 16:7, 16:14) and to glorify Him. The Holy Spirit is called a Paraclete because He undertakes Christ's office in the world while Christ is not in the world as the God-Man in bodily form. In addition, the Holy Spirit is also called the Paraclete because He acts as Christ's substitute on earth.”
 - **Believer's Bible Commentary**⁷ – “The word **Helper** (*Paraclete*) means one called to the side of another to help. It is also translated Advocate (1Jo 2:1). The Lord Jesus is our Advocate or Helper, and the Holy Spirit is **another Helper**—not another of a different kind, but another of similar nature. The Holy Spirit would **abide** with believers **forever**. In the OT, the

Holy Spirit came upon men at various times, but often left them. Now He would come to remain **forever**.”

- The world cannot receive Him (the Holy Spirit)
 - **Believer's Bible Commentary**⁸ – “**The world cannot receive** the Holy Spirit because it cannot see Him. Unbelievers want to see before they will believe—although they believe in wind and electricity, and yet they cannot see them. The unsaved do not know or understand the Holy Spirit. He may convict them of sin, and yet they do not know that it is He. The disciples knew the Holy Spirit. They had known Him to work in their own lives and had seen Him working through the Lord Jesus.”

- **Question to Ponder:** *Do we recognize the Holy Spirit in our lives?*

14:18-24 – *Disciples not to be left as orphans*

- What a great promise from Jesus!
- Re: Second Coming and Rapture – (believers) 1Co 15:51-58; 1Th 4:13-18; Rev 7:9-17 – (unbelievers) 1Jn 2:23; 2Jn 1:9; Rev 20:15
- Jesus and the Father are one – in essence – and the Father loves the Son's disciples and will reveal Himself to them
- Judas (not Iscariot) asks a question focused on the physical rather than the spiritual – Jesus reveals Himself in His commandments and those who keep them *know* Him and the Father through them → they are from the Father

14:25-31 – *The Holy Spirit will help the disciples*

- The Helper will be in Jesus place while He is with the Father
- HS will help the disciples remember Jesus' words – this resulted in the Bible as they wrote down Jesus' words and commandments
- **Believer's Bible Commentary**⁹ – “It is **not given as the world gives**— sparingly, selfishly, and for a short time. His gift of **peace** is forever.”
- **Believer's Bible Commentary**¹⁰ – “The Father was not greater *as God*, but greater because He never came into the world as Man to be cruelly treated. As far as the attributes of deity are concerned, the Son and the Father are equal. But when we think of the lowly place which Jesus took as a Man here on earth, we realize that *in that sense*, God the **Father** was **greater than** He. He was greater as to His *position* but not His *Person*.”
- v29 → 13:19 – Jesus told the disciple before things happened so that they would believe when the events happened
- v31c → 18:1 – we find out here where they went to

Chapter 15

15:1-11 – *Jesus, the True Vine and the Branches*

- **Pruning**¹¹ – “A correct pruning cut will allow for quick healing and promote vigorous growth from the closest bud to the cut.”
- v3 – refer back to 13:5-20 re: clean [“pruned like a branch”]; Eph 5:26

5 (Walton et al.) on John 14:14.

6 (Strong; Zhodiatas, Baker, and Carpenter) on G3875.

7 (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 14:16.

8 (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 14:17.

9 (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 14:27.

10 (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 14:28.

11 (“Pruning”) <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pruning>