

# That You May Believe and Have Life: A Study in John

## John 13-14: The Way, the Truth and the Life

### Review

1. Who is John? (John 21:24, Mark 5:37, 9:2, 12:33, John 13:23, 19:26, 20:2, 21:7)
2. Why did John write the Gospel of John?  
“these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20:31)
3. How does this Gospel differ from the other 3?
4. What is the goal of this study?

### **John 13**

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, <sup>4</sup> rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. <sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." <sup>8</sup> Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet,<sup>1</sup> but is completely clean. And you<sup>2</sup> are clean, but not every one of you." <sup>11</sup> For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean." <sup>12</sup> When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you?" <sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. <sup>14</sup> If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant<sup>1</sup> is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

1. Why is foot washing such a big deal, especially in this culture?
2. What does this teach us about who Christ is?
3. What are we to learn from Christ's example?
4. What does this act symbolize?

5. Why does Peter refuse? What is the meaning of Christ's response?

### **John 14**

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to where I am going."<sup>1</sup> <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you had known me, you would have known my Father also.<sup>1</sup> From now on you do know him and have seen him."

1. This chapter is listed in the top two when people are asked for their favorite chapter in the Bible. Why do you think that is?
2. Why is this especially comforting?
3. Is it necessary to believe in the exclusivity of the Gospel?
4. Why does denying that Christ is the only way not only deny his claim, but also show a lack of understanding of or true faith in the Gospel?
5. Why do you think so many people struggle with believing the Christ is the only way or admitting that they believe that Christ is the only way?

### **John 14**

<sup>12</sup> "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. <sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

1. How might verse 13 be misinterpreted? What does it really mean?
2. How does verse 15 explain the connection of faith and works?
3. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in this passage?