



## One Hope Community Church Suggested Reading Plan & Guide Book of John: Chapter 13 continued

Spiritual transformation happens when we purposefully spend time with God each day. God created you and is waiting to be known by you.

Always begin in prayer, begin the conversation with God. Before opening your Bible, ask God to send His Holy Spirit to you and ask Him to reveal whatever wisdom and insights He wants you to learn.

Reflect on what you have read and take notes. The questions below are designed to help you examine the scriptures and provide discussion points in a small group setting.

We know small groups meet on various days. You may find it's helpful to read all of the verses and begin considering the questions so that you are ready to discuss them with your small group when it meets. This is your space for your time with God, learning and experiencing spiritual transformation. The discussion with your small group is meant to help you learn from each other and grow deeper in community.

Song for the week: I Can't Take the Pain - Third Day  
<https://youtu.be/nrlp9toP7ws?si=NuTDNnlbtfngDG5E>

### **Suggested Reading Plan John 13 continued**

- Day 1: John 13:31-32
- Day 2: John 13:33
- Day 3: John 13:34-35
- Day 4: John 13:36-38
- Day 5: John 13:31-38

### **John 13:31-32**

ACTS is an acronym for Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication. It is one way we can structure our prayers.

Jesus's humanity and divinity are both present in verses 31-32 along with His reciprocal / equal relationship with God the Father. They glorify each other.

Merriam-Webster has the following definitions - To glorify is to give honor, praise, admiration / to extol / to give glory as in worship. Adoration comes from the word adore, to worship, honor and love.

Adoration: Spend a few moments to glorify and adore God. Sing praises or use your own words to show Him your love and worship.

John 13:31 says “WHEN he was gone ... NOW the Son of Man is glorified....”

Looking back to verse 30, who had left? How was his leaving tied to the NOW? How would his actions be the beginning of Jesus’s glorification?

Jesus would have to deal with what Judas did. But Jesus also dealt with what we have done and will do. In Genesis 3, God gave freedom with restriction of obedience. The consequence of disobedience was death. (Genesis 2:17) “All have sinned” (Romans 3:23). Not just Adam and Eve. Not just Judas.

Confession: Spend some time in confession.

Thanksgiving: Thank God for forgiving you. “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights...” (James 1:17) What else do you want to thank God for?

Supplication: What is it that is weighing on your heart and mind? What is troubling you? What direction do you need? Where do you need wisdom? Ask God for these things.

### **John 13:33**

During Jesus’s time, disciples often called their rabbis (teachers) father and in turn were called the teacher’s children. Jesus’s use of the term was familiar to his disciples and at the same time showed tenderness.

Imagine you are in the room with the disciples. Jesus has called you His child. Close your eyes, as you picture this scene consider: How might He be looking at you? How would your heart respond to this? You have a place with Him - you are His child.

Jesus told the disciples “I will be with you only a little while longer.” He is preparing them.

What do you think God is preparing you for right now? Are you quicker to say yes or no to Him? Quicker to believe what He has in store for you or to doubt Him? What actions can you take to move with Him towards that next thing? Consider sharing this with your small group and inviting them to pray with you as He prepares you.

### **John 13:34-35**

The 66 books of the Bible were originally written without chapters or verses. There were over 40 authors writing in their own style and vocabulary, reflecting their own backgrounds, each inspired by the Holy Spirit. While written over approximately 1,500 years, it tells one story, the story of how God loves us and His redemptive plan for us.

Depending on the book, it was a song, poem, letter or a document written on a scroll. Chapters and verses were added later to help people find passages easier. It also helps with memorizing smaller portions of the Bible.

Psalm 119:11 says, "I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You." One way we can hide God's Word in our hearts is to memorize it. Try to memorize John 13:34-35 this week. Consider writing it on notecards and leaving them on your bathroom mirror, in your car, places you will see them.

The 10 commandments can be broken into two sections: how to love God and how to love people. Leviticus 19:18 also says, "...love your neighbor as yourself." The Jewish people knew to value love.

There are two words for new in Greek. According to Strong's Concordance, "néos suggests something "new in time" – in contrast to its near-synonym kainós, "new in quality." Another meaning of kainos is "not found exactly like this before."

What makes this a new (kainos) commandment is that it includes loving like Jesus. He lived His life as an example to us. He loved us til the end. He laid down His life for us. The motive to love was new, not found like this before.

As you show love to others, consider how it feels to do so out of obedience verses out of motive. What motive do we have for loving others?

This week be aware of opportunities when the Holy Spirit prompts you to say yes and respond by loving someone else. Thank Him for showing you these opportunities.

Hebrews 10:24 says, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." Share your experience of loving others with your small group so that you may inspire each other.

People are often known for their culture, what they do, how they dress, their class, their occupation, their earthly accomplishments... Christians are different; we should be known by how we love each other.

Would those who know you notice your love for others? Would they know that your motive is not "to be good" but motivated by love of God? How would they know the difference? How are your actions of love pointing people to Jesus?

### **John 36-38**

In John 13:33 Jesus says "where I am going, you cannot come." In verse 36 Jesus says, "you will follow later." There was still work on earth for Peter to do before he would join Jesus in heaven.

Sometimes we look for our PURPOSE. We wonder what is our PURPOSE? If our purpose is to love like Jesus, what questions could you ask instead of “what is my purpose”?

Ephesians 2:10 says, “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Not only did Peter have work yet to do, so do we. It is not a work, but works.

How do you determine what God has planned for you each day?

Ask the Holy Spirit to make you aware today of the times and places where God has prepared works for you. At the end of the day, take time with God to revisit what you noticed and how you responded to the Holy Spirit. Did you say yes? Did you say no? When you said no, what did you notice? When you said yes, what did you notice? Ask God to help you say yes to Him and thank Him for how He did use you today. Consider sharing your experience with your small group.

In Matthew 16 Peter was told God would use him to build His church. Yet a short time later, Peter was told he would disown Jesus. And Jesus still loved Peter and still used him to build the church.

Do you ever feel like your sin is too great for God to forgive? Talk to God about it. As you do, remember He loves you to the end. He will forgive you and still use you!

### **John 13:31-38**

Re-read the entire passage.

Is there anything new you notice?

Spiritual transformation happens when we purposefully spend time with God each day.

What practice from this week do you want to try again (ACTS, imagining you are in the room with Jesus, spending time with the verses you are memorizing, inviting the Holy Spirit into your day)?