

=FAVORITE BIBLE CHAPTERS=

Lesson 7

John 14

INTRODUCTION: There is no doubt that the 14th chapter of John has brought more comfort to Christians than any other Scripture in the New Testament. One wonders how many hearts have been comforted at the graves of loved ones because of this passage. Our Lord tells us some blessed truths that keep our hearts from being troubled.

- I. JESUS COMFORTED HEARTS IN AN HOUR WHEN HE NEEDED COMFORTING. Even though it was the night before Jesus was crucified, He started out by saying, "Let not your heart be troubled." He Who was about to suffer such pain, He Who was about to bear unbelievable agony and heartache in the Garden of Gethsemane, tried to comfort others. Tomorrow He will be tried before Annas and Caiaphas. Tomorrow he will be delivered before Pilate, sent to Herod, and sent again to Pilate. (See Luke 23:1-25.) He will be beaten with the cat-o'-nine-tails; a crown of thorns will be placed on His head; He will be led to Calvary, crucified, forsaken by the Father; He will suffer as no man has ever suffered; yet He speaks comfort to others. Here is a wonderful, blessed truth: Even though we suffer, we are to comfort others in their suffering. Even though we are weak, we are to make others strong. Even though we have pain, we are to soothe the pain of others.
  
- II. GOD'S CURE FOR HEART TROUBLE. Notice the words in John 14:1a, "Let not your heart be troubled."
  1. Believe in God. It says, "...ye believe in God." This is an imperative statement. He is saying, "If you don't want your heart to be troubled, believe in God!" The atheist has a troubled heart. The first step toward curing such a heart is believing in God.
  2. Believe in Christ. Notice He said, "...believe also in me." This is the second step of the cure for heart trouble. The truth is that no one can believe in the true God unless he believes in God's Son. Jesus said later on in this chapter, "...no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Jesus said later on in John 14, "...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father." (Teacher: Tell the pupils how to believe in Christ. Show them the plan of salvation and the Romans Road.)
  3. Believe in Heaven. Notice the words in John 14:2, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." The third step in curing heart trouble is to believe in Heaven. (Teacher: Talk about Heaven for a while. Turn to Revelation 21 and 22. Discuss the beauties of the New Jerusalem. Tell that I Corinthians 13:12 teaches us that in Heaven we are known even as we are known now, and that Hebrews 12:1 teaches us that in Heaven we watch what goes on on the earth.)
  4. Believe in the second coming. John 14:3, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (Teacher: Tell about the rapture and the glorious resurrection of the saved who have died in Christ. Tell about Jesus' coming. Tell about the Judgment Seat, the Marriage of the Lamb, the millennium, and all the joys of the future.)
  5. Believe in the presence of Christ. Notice the words in John 14:3c, "...that where I am, there ye may be also." The fact that we will live with Christ forever is a part of God's cure for heart trouble.

In other words, our hearts will not be troubled if we believe in God, believe in Christ, believe in Heaven, believe in the second coming, and believe in the presence of Christ. (Teacher: Explain that when a person is saved, the Holy Spirit comes in him to live, and he will live with Christ forever. Teach him that Christ is always with us and that He will never leave us nor forsake us.)

III. THE WAY TO HEAVEN. Read John 14:4-6. Thomas couldn't understand how to get to Heaven. Jesus explained that He is the way for those who are lost; He is the truth for those who are in error; and He is the life for those who are dead. In other words, He is the answer for the unsaved man, and nobody can go to Heaven or to the Father unless he comes through Jesus Christ. In John 10:9a, He says, "I am the door." No man can enter into a room unless he comes through a door. Jesus is the door.

In the rest of John 14, Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit coming in; He talks about the fact that He and the Father are one; He talks about peace; but all of it is based upon the first six verses.

CONCLUSION: Notice the word "mansions" in John 14:2. It comes from the same word which is translated "abide" in John 15:4. If we abide in Christ now, we have a foretaste of our mansion which will be in Heaven later. Thank God! Even though we are not in Heaven yet, we can have a "little Heaven" on earth as we fellowship with Christ and "mansion" in Him.