

Digging Deeper: John 14:12, 15–31

Trinity – Holy Spirit

Written by Robert Lee (Elder at MACC)

Day 1: Pray. Read John 14:12.

There is an intimate connection between Jesus and God the Father. Jesus brought a full revelation of the Father so that the apostles could have full knowledge of him also. But in verse 12, Jesus is speaking about the Holy Spirit as the one who will do even greater things than these. What specifically is Jesus referring to (in reference to doing greater things than these)? Have you seen evidence of greater things being done in your life? How about in the lives of those around you?

Day 2: Pray. Read John 14:15–18 and James 2:14–26

In John 14:15, Jesus mentions two important verbs while in conversation with his disciples, “love” and “obey.” Jesus says, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.” (NIV) Love, like faith (see James 2:14–26) cannot be separated from obedience. Jesus then promises that he will ask the Father to give his disciples another Counselor (the Spirit of truth) to be with them forever. This world does not accept him because it neither sees him nor knows him. If you know him, share him (the Spirit of truth) with others. Open your heart and let him in if you do not know him. He will not leave you as orphans but will come to you as Jesus promised.

Day 3: Pray. Read John 14:19–21.

Jesus explained to his disciples that the world soon would no longer see him. Jesus, while preparing his disciples for what was to come, assured them that because he lives, they will also live. The cross would separate the world from the disciples. The life of the Christian always depends on the life of Christ, and never on anything of this world, no matter how shiny the object!

Day 4: Pray. Read John 14:22–24

In verse 22, Judas (not Judas Iscariot) asked Jesus a particularly important question regarding why he (Jesus) intended to show himself to the disciples and not to the world. The same action that is required from mankind that was introduced in Tuesday’s lesson above are revisited here in Jesus’ reply, “love” Jesus and “obey” his teaching! Again, love and obedience are linked. In verse 23b, Jesus also shares the relational significance for those who love him and obey his teaching. He says, “My Father will love him, and we will come to him” and do what? I challenge you to make a list of things of this world to fear while living in the relationship that Jesus describes in this passage.

Day 5: Pray. Read John 14:25–27

Peace that Jesus refers to in verse 27 speaks to the salvation that Christ's redemptive work will achieve for his disciples—total well-being and inner rest of spirit, which is in fellowship with God. This peace differs greatly from the peace that the world gives that can only express a longing or wish. No Jesus, no peace! Know Jesus, know peace!

Day 6: Pray. Read John 14:28–31

In verse 30, Jesus says, "I will not speak with you much longer, for the 'prince of this world' is coming. He has no hold on me." Who is the prince of this world that Jesus is referring to? Jesus stresses the importance of his followers being obedient and that he set the example. Are you willing at this moment to follow Jesus? If not, connect with someone who is and begin to learn from them how to lead another to Christ!