

AT THE THRESHOLD

NEVER ALONE

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John 13: Jesus tells his disciples that he is leaving and they go into a panic.

John 14: Jesus tells the disciples what to do when he's gone.

What to do when God feels absent

1. Keep the faith, Jesus is Trustworthy. (vs. 1-7)

Key Verse: *Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. (vs. 1)*

Why?

- Jesus has a plan (vs. 3)
- There is no other way to God (vs. 6)

Principle: It often takes God's perceived absence to turn belief into trust.

2. Tell Jesus what you need because He's actively working in your life. (vs. 8-14)

Key Verse: *I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these because I am going to the Father. (vs. 12)*

Principle: God often does His best work in secret.

3. Relax. You are not alone (vs. 15-26)

Key Verse: *If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him and we will come to him and make our home with him. (vs. 23)*

Why?

- Jesus promised to live inside believers (vs 18)
- The Holy Spirit gives us direction (vs. 25)

Principle: Guidance always follows obedience

4. Claim Jesus' Peace (vs. 27)

Key Verse: *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (vs. 27)*

Next Steps

- I am committing to follow Jesus for the first time today.
- I am re-committing to follow Jesus today.
- I will get baptized on Good Friday.



Lesson Aim: To grow in awareness of how Jesus Christ is always with us.

Ice-breaker: What is something that you were scared of as a child?

Open in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

1. **Read John 14:1-4.** What are some reasons Jesus gives here to not let our hearts be troubled? What is something that you worry about or are fearful of?
2. We learned from Pastor Chris that God is in control and has a plan. What is something that you have a tendency to try and keep control over and not turn over to God? How do we give God control?
3. When have you experienced turning a fearful situation or problem over to God and He helped you through it or to solve it? Is there something you are holding onto and need to turn over to God?
4. **Read John 14: 5-14.** How should these scriptures affect your attitude towards outreach to others? How should they affect your overall confidence and your prayer life?
5. God's work continues in your life even when it seems God is not there. When have you experienced a time or situation when you felt alone? How did you seek God during that time?

6. **Read John 14:26 and Romans 15:13.** What is your perception of the Holy Spirit? What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit in relation to your life?
7. **Read Galatians 5:22-23.** Which of the fruit of the Holy Spirit are you experiencing in your life right now? What, if anything, is preventing you from experiencing all of them?
8. **Read John 14:27.** Jesus gives us supernatural peace in all we do. What is something that you lack peace with currently? How can you turn that matter over to Jesus and obtain the peace He promises?

Daily Devotional Plan – Scriptures to help remind us that we are never alone.

Day 1 – Isaiah 41:10

Day 2 – Jeremiah 29:11

Day 3 – Matthew 11:28

Day 4 –Galatians 6:9

Day 5 –2 Corinthians 4:8-9

Day 6 – Psalm 34:17-19

Day 7 – Isaiah 42:16

To go deeper: Answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper/journal/laptop/etc.:

- What did you hear? (What did God say to you as you read the Scriptures for the day?)
- What do you think? (What does it mean to you, how does it apply to your life, and what difference will it make to you?)
- What will you do? (What action step will you take? How will you think differently? How will you live differently?)
- Now talk to God (Put your thoughts into prayer. It could be a prayer of gratitude or praise. It could be a prayer of confession or a request for God's help. It's up to you. But take a minute each day to write a prayer response to what you read in the Scriptures.)