



## Portrait of Christ

*Sketches in the Gospel of John*

Inductive Discovery Lesson 15  
**John 14:1-31**

### Jesus: The Way, Truth, and Life

When the disciples entered the upper room that night, they expected to share Passover with Jesus in the usual custom. But this was no ordinary supper. Jesus gave the bread and wine new significance. From now on, it was to be taken in remembrance of Him.

Jesus humbly knelt in front of each man and washed his feet. He needed to penetrate their stubborn hearts with His command to love and serve each other. When Jesus sat down again, He began to speak of betrayal, desertion and death. The men stared, hearts churning, barely comprehending what they heard. Why was He going away? How would they know where to follow? As the fearful waves began to swell and break, our Lord spoke peace into their stormy hearts.

*“Don’t let your heart be troubled...believe in God...believe in Me...”*

*“I won’t leave you as orphans...”*

Dark days loomed ahead; they would feel alone and afraid—but Jesus promised they would not be abandoned. The *Helper* would come. He would be their constant companion and teacher, helping them to remember all that Jesus said.

**Working Text for John 14:1-31**  
New International Version (NIV)

1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me. 2 In My Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going.” 5 Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we don’t know where You are going, so how can we know the way?” 6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

7 If you really knew Me, you would know My Father as well. From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him.” 8 Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” 9 Jesus answered: “Don’t you know Me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10 Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just My own. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work. 11 Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. 12 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. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it. 15 “If you love Me, you will obey what I command.

16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

**19** Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. **20** On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. **21** Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him.”

**22** Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do You intend to show Yourself to us and not to the world?” **23** Jesus replied, “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. **24** He who does not love Me will not obey My teaching. These words you hear are not My own; they belong to the Father who sent Me.

**25** “All this I have spoken while still with you. **26** But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. **27** Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. **28** “You heard Me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. **29** I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. **30** I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on Me, **31** but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what My Father has commanded Me. “Come now; let us leave.





**John 14:25-31**

Facts from the passage:

My Research and Personal Observations:

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**Key Words and Phrases**

Write the definition of the following words and phrases. Use a regular dictionary or a Bible concordance with Greek Dictionary if you have one.

“the way” (vs.6) \_\_\_\_\_  
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“the truth” (vs.6) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

“the life” (vs.6) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**INTERPRETATION — *What does it mean?***

**Look for a spiritual lesson.** Be careful not to read into the Bible an idea that is not there. Examine each verse in light of the verses around it. To help you find a spiritual lesson, ask questions such as: “Is there a command to obey? Is there a promise to claim? Is there a condition to that promise? Is there a warning to heed? Is there an example to follow or avoid?” **State the lesson in one simple sentence.**

**APPLICATION — *How does it apply to me?***

We don’t study the Bible just to gather information—we want to spiritually grow. Our heart needs to be open to change. The only way to move truth off the pages of your Bible and into your life is to **put it into action.**

To apply a spiritual lesson, we must examine ourselves and take deliberate steps to do something with what we have learned. Ask yourself: Is this a new insight for me, or does it reinforce what I already know? What does it challenge me to do? Does it point out error in my attitude or actions? What changes does it require? Think of how the lesson relates to you and what specific course of action you will take. **Write your application in the form of a question to make it personal.**

**John 14:1-15**

Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Application: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

**John 14:16-24**

Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Application: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

**John 14:25-31**

Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Application: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

**Summary**

Write a simple sentence that summarizes what the chapter is about. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Give a simple title to the chapter to help you remember what it says.  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Take A Closer Look

**“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth...”**  
John 14:16-17a

### ***Memorize God’s Word***

Choose the translation you prefer to memorize from and re-write the verse here.

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### ***Meditate on God’s Word***

While you memorize this verse, let it work into your heart and mind. Scripture meditation is like a good cup of tea—the longer it steeps, the richer the flavor. So give yourself permission to slowly savor God’s Word! Use the questions below (like a tea bag) to keep dipping into this verse.

(Challenge alert: You won’t always see an obvious answer directly from the verse.)

**Look up.** What does this verse show you about God? (For example, look for signs of His character, His attributes, His works, or His promises.)

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**Look around.** What does this teach you about life or people in general?

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**Look within.** What does this teach you about yourself?

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**Look ahead.** Does this verse give you reason to hope? Briefly share your thoughts.

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**Look alive!** Given the opportunity, how would you express the truth found in this verse to someone who needs to hear it?

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## ***Make God's Word Your Prayer***

As you memorize and meditate on this verse, pray it back to the Lord. Let the Holy Spirit examine your heart, increase your understanding, and help you to pray. Ask Him for faith and strength to *act* on the truth of God's Word.

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## **God's Word Bearing Fruit**

For you personally, what has been the most important lesson from this chapter?  
How will you put what you have learned into practice?

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## **Something to Think About . . .**

The Spirit of God teaches us the Word and guides us (not drags us!) into the truth.  
He also reminds us of what He has taught us so that we can  
depend on God's Word in the difficult times of life.

Warren Wiersbe

**Message Notes:**

A large rectangular area with horizontal lines, resembling a notepad or message template. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the area. The edges of the rectangle are irregular and jagged, giving it the appearance of a piece of torn paper. The background of the area is a light gray color.

