

John 14a

1 This is one of the most comforting passages of Scripture. We may not understand why God is taking us down this path, but we can trust in God and His Son Christ Jesus. Psalms 42:11; Isaiah 43:1-2 You could also translate this as: You trust God, trust me too. No human but Jesus could say that. The coming struggle for the disciples is weighing heavily on Jesus. If we knew something like this was coming, we would be thinking mostly of self. Don't allow your heart to be disquieted, lose its peace, because that is a lack of trust in God and Jesus. It is a choice we make when difficulty comes our way. 1Thess 3:3-4

2-3 Jewish homes in the countryside were built around a courtyard. When a son was going to be married and the bride price had been arranged, the father and son would add another room on the outer edge of the courtyard. When the construction was complete the son could go claim his bride and celebrate the wedding. In Jesus' case, there are many rooms. 2 Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:14-16; We are collectively and individually the bride of Christ. When everything is ready, He will come for us. The friend of the bridegroom would blow the shofar as they approached the bride's home. We will hear a trumpet also, announcing the coming of our groom. 1Corinthians 15:52 The One who cannot lie has promised. He was leaving them, but He is as excited to return as they are to see Him coming in sky to receive us. John 17:24

4-6 See 7:33; 10:9 Jesus had explained it again and again, but it didn't sink in. It is hard for us to comprehend that which is out of our realm of experience. Jesus had just said He was going to the Father. Thomas wants a road map. Jesus says He is it. Here is another of the many I AM statements. The Way- Isaiah 35:8,9 The Truth – John 1:14; 1John 5:20 The Life – John 1:4; 5:21 It is important to see that Jesus is not just teaching a way or about life or life, He is those things!

It is a fascinating revelation that the gates of the Temple had these names. The outermost gate through which you would enter into the Court of the Women was called the Life Gate. To go on into the Holy Place you had to pass through the Truth Gate. Finally, to enter the Most Holy Place you had to pass through The Way Gate. Jesus said He was the Gate. Notice the order He gives is from the inside out as God would come to meet us, not the outside in as we would go to meet God. There is no other way to God but through Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12

7-10 Was Philip thinking of that day when Moses saw the glory of God (Exodus 33)? John 1:14 has already told us that seeing Jesus is seeing the glory of God. He showed us in a wonderful way the nature and attributes of God, in a way we could comprehend. If you have seen Him, you have seen God. Have we truly looked at the life of Jesus and seen God? He is in the Father and the Father is in Him. Those things He does are the work of the Father, just as the things we do

are to be the work of the Spirit in our lives. Believe because of the incredibly miraculous and selfless life He lived. Colossians 1:19; 2:9; Acts 10:38
Just as Jesus' words and actions were those of the Father, so our words and actions are to be those of Jesus. Can you imagine your life like that? What would need to change? Are you headed in that direction?

11 John 10:25,32,38 If His words don't convince us, His miracle working power should! Mark 11:4-5 If non-believers won't listen to the historical evidence that was witnessed by thousands, why would they take the word of some guru who has no verification or of a religion whose founder's claims were never verified?

12-14 It is truly amazing what has happened via Christian believers. Medical care has become available around the planet through missionaries. The Jesus film has been presented to 1.5 billion people. Thousands of men and women have given their lives for people they did not know. The Bible has been translated into almost every language. The church has done amazing things, even more so than witnessed in the Jesus' earthly life. That is because of His abiding Spirit. He went to the Father to send the Spirit to us. See 7:39
To ask in the name of Jesus is to ask with His authority. If you are certain of His authority when you ask, then you can be sure that it will be done.

In the preceding verses, Jesus had just told the disciples that He was in the Father and the Father in Him. The words that He spoke were not His but the Father's. If we take these verses out of context, it sounds like Jesus is our magic genie. That is not what He is saying.

If you have faith in Jesus, that is to believe and receive Him, or to have the relationship He has with the Father, you will do what He has been doing. The miracles and words of Jesus came from His relationship with the Father. If you have the kind of relationship with Jesus that He lived out on this earth with Father, then your life will look like His. The New Testament writers understood this clearly. Jesus' goal is to conform us to His perfect example. That is the expression of the fruits of the Spirit.

If we have that oneness with Jesus that He exemplified with the Father, then you can "ask in His name". That means you can request with the authority of an official representative of Jesus. It does not mean to add the magic phrase "in Jesus' name". The request will be the will of Jesus just as Jesus' requests were always the will of the Father.

This promise carries no limits, but it is not without the previously implied conditions. If those conditions did not exist, every immature Christian would have won the local lottery and be a super-star to their spiritual detriment. That has the opposite affect of bringing you to God's goal, Christ's likeness. But if that oneness with Jesus does exist, consider your potential to touch the world around you with the very words and miracles of Jesus!