

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

July 21, 2021

John 14: 6 - 14

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. **7** If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. **8** Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. **9** Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father? **10** Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. **11** Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. **12** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. **13** And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Pastor Tom read the verses through, beginning with verse 6 to make it cohesive with last week. He pointed out that Jesus is very clear in verse 6, telling us who He is and how we get to the Father. Verse 9 suggests Jesus' frustration with Philip and verse 12 is a 'pay attention' verse leading to a picture of the Trinity.

Verse 6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Verse 7

If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

*The 2 letter word 'IF' indicates a condition or choice we must make. God has given us the gift of 'choice' or freewill. We can choose from many choices who we associate with, God being one choice. When we have too many choices, the decision can be difficult..

*Jesus is saying here that we need to know Him first before we really know the Father. And then we would realize the 2 are one. John 1:1 begins this entire Gospel with an explanation of this.

Pastor Tom is reading the book of John in Spanish and is discovering, in the intricacies of another language, new insights in the Word. Each time we read a scripture whether the 2nd or 22nd time, we can glean new revelations from the Word. The Holy Spirit will reveal deeper meanings and different perspectives each time.

Verse 8

Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

*Skeptical people will often say, "You show me your God and I will believe." Ephesians 2:8 *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God."* means that faith must come before seeing/believing. Philip's way was backwards.

Verse 9

Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?

*This verse is an example of the repetitive nature of the Bible.

*How many times does a person need to hear the Gospel before believing? Dwight L. Moody, an evangelist, said that the Holy Spirit 'woos' a person 3 to 5 times during their life. When does the Holy Spirit stop 'wooing'? Pastor

Tom's mom would say that God is a gentleman, and he will only allow you to say 'no' so many times then he'll leave you alone.

Genesis 6:3 *"And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years."*

Romans 1:28 *"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"*

*But even though we have a reprobate mind, God is still there when a person calls to Him in need. When our hearts are too hard, it may be too late and difficult to change hearts on our death bed. Tony Evans is quoted saying, "We are in the Land of the Living, thinking we are going to the Land of the Dead. But really, we are in the Land of the Dead, going to the Land of the Living!"

Verse 10

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

*The word 'speaks' jumps off the page. In the Triune God, it takes all three parts to be fully saved because John 6:44 says *"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."* This drawing, or wooing, comes from the Holy Spirit. God the Father puts the Word out, the Holy Spirit convicts us and the Son died for us and when we accept Him then we know God. The Trinity is a mystery no one can fully understand but Jesus gives us much to learn about in scriptures about the Three in One God.

Verses 11 and 12

11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

*James 2:17 “Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.” Salvation is the greatest work of God. The miracles were also works of power to do incredible things. When Jesus did great miracles (feeding 5000+ people, making deaf to hear, lame to walk, blind to see...) His earth ministry was confined to the Galilean area. But the greater works we will do to spread the Gospel over all the earth, to every tribe and every nation. The Holy Spirit is performing many signs and wonders in countries where the church is more pure than here in America. Places like South America, Africa, and Asia are witnessing the moving of the Holy Spirit. Both Pastor Tom and Pastor Jon recounted stories of God destroying the enemy forces for missionaries in the Caribbean area.

Pastor Jon summarized what we had learned so far in John 14 about the Trinity:

Verse 1 - Jesus points to the Father

Verse 7 Jesus and the Father are One

Verse 9 - He refers to the Father

Verse 10 - God doing works through Jesus

Verse 12 - refers to the coming of the Holy Spirit

Then Pastor Tom skimmed over the last 2 verses;

Verses 13 and 14

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Pastor Tom believes in praying in the Name of Jesus, but Jesus is not obligated to answer in YOUR way. When Jesus does a work, even answering a prayer, its purpose is to glorify God (not to please us!). When we take credit for a good work, it takes the credit from God!

*When we pray, 'Dear God, Father in Heaven' when we start a prayer and finish praying "In Jesus' Name" the Holy Spirit does a work in us in answering the prayer.

Finally, Pastor Tom remarked how amazing it is to ponder that God is so big that He can look through time and space upon us....He knew us in our mothers' womb and He prepares a place for us with Him in Heaven!

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

May the Lord watch between me and thee
While we are absent one from the other.

NOTE:

Pastor Jon will be leading Bible Study on July 28th, while Pastor Tom is on vacation. Please plan to bring lawn chairs so we can gather together outdoors next week, weather permitting.