



Sermon Study Guide for May 10, 2020

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Jesus is preparing a place for us in heaven. We look forward to a heavenly reunion where we get to be together to worship God for His great salvation. How do our homes today become a foretaste of that heavenly home as we worship the Lord and fill our homes with God's promises?

Getting Started:

1. What do you enjoy about worshipping at home these days?
2. What are some of the challenges and things you don't like about worshipping at home?

In the Word: John 14:1-14

3. Look at the setting for Jesus' words here, and what was happening when He spoke them to His disciples. It was in the upper room, after Jesus washed the disciples' feet (John 13) and before He was arrested in Gethsemane (John 18). Why do you think it was important for Jesus to assure His disciples of this promise at that time?
4. There is a link to last week's reading of Psalm 23. It concludes by saying, "And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." What does Jesus say in John 14:2 that tells us something about this "house of the Lord"?
5. Look closely at Thomas' words in his question to Jesus. "*How can we know?!*" How does Thomas' instance on knowing, and his need for knowing, relate to his experience with the risen Christ in John 20:24-29?
6. Jesus' statement in 14:6 that He is 'the way, the truth, and the life,' and that 'no one comes to the Father except through Him' is often seen as a controversial and offensive comment by people outside the church. Why do you think that is?

7. Read Acts 4:12 and compare that with John 14:6. What is God's Word very clear about in these passages?
8. What do you think Jesus means when He tells Phillip in verse 9 that "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father"?
9. In verse 12, Jesus promises that whoever believes in Him would do even greater works than what He had done. How can that be? Obviously only Jesus could do the greatest work of dying and rising for the salvation of the world. What does Jesus mean here? We might think of it this way: Jesus' ministry was only about three years. Yet the apostles served Christ for decades after Jesus ascended into heaven. And even more people have come to faith since then. Looking at it from a historical perspective, what great works has God done through the Church in the past 2,000 years that are "greater" than Jesus' three years of ministry?
10. In verses 13 and 14, Jesus tells his disciples that whatever they ask for in His name will be done so that God the Father would be glorified through Jesus Christ. How have you seen prayers answered in your life, that gave glory to God the Father?

Putting it all Together

11. The Bible doesn't give a lot of details, but what do you imagine your heavenly home to be like?
12. How does Jesus' promise of a heavenly home help us to do the first thing He says in John 14:1 – "Do not let your hearts be troubled."
13. How can we make our homes to be places where Jesus dwells during this time of pandemic, as our homes become sanctuaries where we worship, read and discuss God's Word, and pray as a family?

Prayer: Ask Jesus to fill our homes and our hearts with His word, to show people that He is the WAY, and to reveal the TRUTH of His word to them, and give us all LIFE to the fullest. Pray for all people worshipping in their homes, that we might worship in Spirit and in truth.