

DAILY READING PLAN



Week of October 2, 2022

Transitions: Jesus

John 14:15-18 & 16:1, 12-15

Day #1 –Read John 14:18 | *No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you.*

The disciples were anxious about losing their leader. Jesus' words here tell us that they felt like orphans. What do you think happens to communities and organizations that feel this way?

Day #2 –Read John 14:15 | *If you love me, obey my commandments.*

An undercurrent of God's relationship with God's people is that people always have the choice to follow God's way or to go their own way. Adam and Eve, Israel, and even Jesus have these opportunities. What would Prince of Peace do if they were receiving this commandment? How would obeying this commandment carry us through this transition?

Day #3 – Read John 14:16-17 | *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.*

Confirmation bias can be a dangerous flaw in our reasoning. If left unchecked, it can lead to broken relationships and bad decisions that we regret. Jesus is encouraging his disciples to operate with a confirmation bias that is set to see God's Spirit at work in their lives. We are naturally set to see some combination of our own effort or fate. What would it look like to see God's Spirit at work in your life?

Day #4 –Read John 16:1 | *I have told you these things so that you won't abandon your faith.*

Sometimes we think that getting in shape is impossible when it really comes down to healthy decisions over time. The same is true in our relationship with God. We can think that to be a great Christian is too big a task when it is really a series of faithful steps over a lifetime. What is the next faithful step you can take?

Day #5 –Read John 16:12-15 | There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me. All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, 'The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.'

Have you ever fast-forwarded through the tension in a movie or TV show to find out the conclusion? While immediately satisfying, it robs us of the full impact of the story. What are you fast-forwarding through in your life? Or how are you checking-out of the present moment?