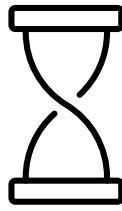


HIS HOUR
HAS COME...

JOHN 13-17
PART 1



His hour has come. Chapter 13 is where the second half of John's gospel begins. Up until this point Jesus had performed many signs and been clear that his hour had not yet come, but in chapter 13 that all changes. It is now time for him to die, rise and return to his Father.

Chapters 13-17 are often called the farewell discourse. With the betrayal of Judas in motion and an impending crucifixion, Jesus uses his last night to sit with his disciples and teach them. To share deep truth, hope and encouragement with them. John is the only gospel that records this conversation for us to read and shows to us the very heart of Jesus.

In part 1 of this series we will see Jesus' example of servanthood, the way to his Father, the gift of the Holy Spirit and his encouragement to remain in him through the trials that are coming. These are Jesus' final instructions before he dies, and he chooses carefully what his disciples will need to remember soon, because... his hour has come.

JOHN 13:1-30



Brainstorm: What do you already know about John's Gospel?

Read John 13:1-3

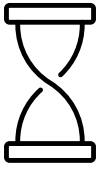
Previously in John: Up to this point what has Jesus said about "his hour" (check out 2:4, 7:30, 8:20)? What has now changed?

Guess what kind of things Jesus will say or do in the next few chapters now that his hour has come and he is soon to die.

Read John 13:4-11

Why would Jesus' actions here have been so surprising?

How does Jesus' act of washing feet serve as an enacted parable for the whole of his mission?



Read John 13:12-20

What is the lesson in this for his disciples?

Why does Jesus choose this moment to tell them?

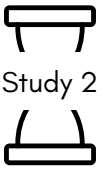
Read John 13:21-30

Search in John's Gospel for "Judas" - how has John prepared the reader for this very moment? (eg. 6:71, 12:4, 13:2)

How does this chapter set the scene for what is to come in the rest of John?

"Now that you know these things..." what would it look like for us to do them?
Come up with concrete ways you can do these this week.

JOHN 13:31-14:14



Study 2

Starter: How do you think the non-Christians in your life would respond if you told them that Jesus was the only way to get to heaven?

Read John 13:31-35

What is the connection between Jesus being glorified and him leaving?

Of all the commands Jesus could have given, why is "love one another" a good one for his disciples (and us) to follow?

Jesus says he is leaving, and his friends have questions. Put yourself in their shoes as you reflect on the next few sections of John's Gospel.

Read John 13:36-14:4 - Peter's Question

Peter speaks confidently but then later fails to follow through when under pressure. What is Jesus' comfort to Peter and his disciples here?

How might Jesus' words be a comfort to you, when your heart is troubled or in a time when you feel you have let Jesus down?



Read John 14:5-7 - Thomas' Question

Thomas desires to follow Jesus, but gets confused by Jesus' words. What is Jesus' clear statement to Thomas and his disciples here?

Why does Jesus get to be the exclusive way to knowing the Father?

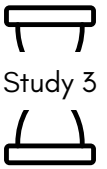
Read John 14:8-14 - Phillip's Question

Phillip asks Jesus for what he actually already has, thinking it will be all he needs. What is Jesus' rebuke to Phillip and his disciples here?

Of these 3 disciples, who do you often feel most like? How will Jesus' words in this section impact the way you relate to him as you wait for him to return?

Extra: Brainstorm a creative way to help you remember that Jesus is coming back.

JOHN 14:15-31



Study 3

Brainstorm: What do you know about the Holy Spirit? Who he is and what does he do? You might like to share how you have experienced him at work in your life.

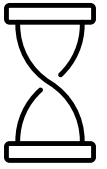
Read John 14:15-24

What is the significance of the the Holy Spirit being "another" advocate?

What does that tell us about what the Holy Spirit will do?

Discuss the relationship between love and obedience in these verses.

How does Jesus exemplify love and obedience to his Father?



Read John 14:25-31

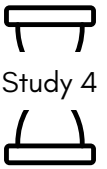
What does Jesus give his disciples as he leaves?

What is the goal of Jesus telling his disciples all this?

Describe the difference that the Holy Spirit and the peace of Jesus make to our love and obedience.

Compare how life with the Spirit will look different to the life of someone who is of "the world." Brainstorm some specific ways you could show that difference in your life this week.

JOHN 15:1-17



Study 4

"I am the Vine" is the last of the famous I AM statements in John's Gospel.
Can you name the other six?

Read John 15:1-8

Draw (or list) the picture Jesus describes and label the parts using specific verses.

In what sense is Jesus the "true" vine? (see Isaiah 5:1-7)

Why should the disciples remain in him?

What would that look like for them (and us)?



Read John 15:9-17

How is the pattern of Jesus' relationship with his Father the same pattern that the disciples were to follow?

In what way does this kind of love and obedience lead to joy?

How did Jesus exemplify this kind of great love?

Look up the lyrics or listen to the hymn 'What a friend we have in Jesus' and discuss the ways it reminds us to remain in Jesus.

Jesus' command is simple: love each other. Identify some areas / times in your life where that is hard to do. Then discuss some ways you love others more and more this week.