

# **Open it**

1. Have you ever made a promise you couldn't keep?

# **Daily Devotions**

Day 1 – Today's Theme: Explore It

Read John 14:15-31.

- 2. If you love Jesus, what should you do?
- 3. Who will God send as an advocate for us?
- 4. Why can't the world accept the Holy Spirit?
- 5. Who is the one that loves Jesus?
- 6. Why doesn't Jesus show Himself to the world?
- 7. What does Jesus say He gives us in verse 27?
- 8. Who is coming? And does he have any hold over Jesus?

### Day 2 – Today's Theme: We Are Never Alone

#### Read John 14:15-21.

At the beginning of this passage Jesus is continuing to talk to the disciples. The disciples do not fully understand what is going on and are a little scared. It is very much like those movies where the parent knows that she going to die, but tells her children that everything is okay, and that she will always be with them. Jesus is doing exactly that in this passage. The disciples do not know that Jesus is going to die soon, but Jesus does. He is trying to comfort the disciples before He goes to the cross, and one of the ways He does so is by telling them that He will always be with them, just like the parents in the movies do.

Jesus promises the disciples that they will never be alone and that God will send an Advocate for them. That Advocate is the Holy Spirit. Jesus says that if we love Him and keep His commands He "*will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever*" (v.16). If we believe in Jesus, then we will receive the Holy Spirit as an advocate from God to always be with us. In all of our times of need we'll always have the Holy Spirit to turn to for guidance and comfort in our lives.

Jesus says all of this, but the disciples do not fully understand because they do not yet have the Holy Spirit in them. They will not receive the Holy Spirit until after Jesus ascends into heaven.

#### 9. How does the Holy Spirit help you in your time of need?

10. In the passage it says that "The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him" (v.17). How would you describe the Holy Spirit and its impact to those who do not know Him?

## Day 3 — Today's Theme: Jesus: Obedience

#### Read John 14:22-24.

When I was in high school I had some pretty cool teachers that I was friends with, but I also had some teachers I wasn't too fond of. I obeyed every rule of the teachers that I was cool with, and always paid attention in class and did my homework on time and was an all-round awesome student to have. On the other hand, for the teachers that I wasn't tight with in school, I was almost the exact opposite. The only similarity would be that I would have my homework finished on time. But I never tried, they were just answers to fill in the blank spots on the paper. While I never verbally disrespected those teachers, I disrespected them in my actions. I didn't pay attention in class, or take their homework seriously, or even listen to all of their rules. I wanted to be a better student for the teachers that I liked more than I did for the ones that I didn't like.

This is similar to what Jesus mentions in verses 23 and 24. Anyone who loves Jesus will obey His Word and anyone who does not love Him will not obey it. You can tell when someone doesn't care about a class or a teacher because it reflects in their character. They may say that they care, but you can tell through their actions that they really don't. It's the exact same when it comes to Jesus; you can tell who really loves Jesus and who does not. When you truly love Jesus, you want to obey His Word and keep His commands. Your desire to grow in Him is a product of your faith and love for Him.

# 11. How can your actions show others that you truly love Jesus? How can your actions show others the love of Jesus?

12. What are some ways that you are currently obeying Jesus? How can you be more obedient to Jesus and His Word?

## Day 4 – Today's Theme: Holy Spirit Keeping You Cool

#### Read John 14:25-31.

In verse 27, Jesus says that He leaves His peace with us which will come from the Holy Spirit when Jesus is glorified. The Holy Spirit offers us more than just peace, however. The Holy Spirit is going to help give us assurance and confidence throughout our lives. Whenever you face a challenge, you can always turn to the Holy Spirit, and He will give you the assurance and confidence you need to get over whatever may be in your way. Things may not always go as you planned, but they will always go as God planned, and He will always give you what you need to get through any situation that may be thrown at you.

You know what they say: God gives His silliest battles to His funniest clowns. And the Holy Spirit will help you to be hilarious in those times if you look to Him for help. Ok, so that doesn't really make sense. But on a serious note, the Holy Spirit is here to help us, not just make sure that we aren't alone, but to convict us, and speak through us, and shine God's light through us. Christians today oftentimes don't recognize the Holy Spirit's presence in their lives. We should be leaning on the Spirit for confidence and assurance in our faith in God. The Holy Spirit can work wonders through you if you put your faith in God and let Him work through you. But it all starts by putting your trust in Him.

#### 13. How has the Holy Spirit helped give you confidence or assurance in the past?

14. What are some current situations that the Holy Spirit can help you through?

Note: This study was written by Avery Tindall. www.villagebible.church/students