

# Summary Sheet for John 13v31-14v7

## ...to accompany Notes 25-26

GOAL of this 1-2-1 study

**Don't be troubled by separation from Jesus now**

### Context – how does this passage fit in?

Now that Judas the traitor has left the room (13v30) the 'Upper Room Discourse' or 'Farewell Discourse' can really begin, as Jesus instructs his disciples on what his death and resurrection will mean for them in practice. Chs 13-17 is a key section in John's gospel, explaining what is involved in being Jesus' disciple in his physical absence and what it means to believe and 'have life' (in this life and after death).

### Impact on us

The cross of Jesus means that his disciples can have 100% confidence that we will be welcomed into the Father's presence in glory to be with him forever. Jesus is able to promise us this because he himself is the one who will take us there.

No other route will work.

Confident of this, are we eagerly proactive in keeping the new command he's given us – to show the world we follow him by loving one another with the same cross-shaped mindset of our Master?

### How John writes to make his point

The Upper Room Discourse (chs 13-17) is divided in two parts by the phrase, "*Rise, let us go from here.*" (14v31). The first half (13v31-14v31) consists of Jesus's announcement of his departure, followed by questions/requests posed by 4 of his confused disciples, and Jesus' answering explanations. In this study we will consider the questions of Peter and Philip. Jesus deliberately answers these questions more fully than his questioners intended, thus giving more details of what they're to expect, and also provoking more questions in the process. Jesus first tells his disciples plainly that he will soon leave them, but quickly moves to reassure them by explaining how his death, resurrection and future return means they will follow, and outlines what they're to be getting on with in the meantime...

#### Structure

#### Jesus is going away... "Where? How can we get there?"

- 13vs31-35     The shocking announcement – Jesus & God's time of glorification has come – Jesus' death. This means a) his disciples will be separated from him and b) they should follow his pattern and love one another.
- 13v36-14v4     Peter's question; Where? & Why can't I follow?  
Jesus' reply: You can't follow because of your sin but I am the means for you to be welcomed later.
- 14vs5-7:         Thomas' question: How can we know the way?  
Jesus' reply: I provide the unique way through my death, my revelation of God and my resurrection life.

## Some questions to help guide someone else through ch 13v31-14v7

**Opener:** What things cause us to doubt whether heaven exists and whether we'll go there?

**Considering the text1:** vs 31 - 35 set up a vital discussion between Jesus and his disciples that runs through ch13-17. Try putting v31-35 in your own words. How do you think the disciples reacted? What do you think it will look like in action for a Christian to put v35 into practice?

**Considering the text2:** How should Jesus' answers in v36 and 13v38 - 14v4 a) clarify the root problem and b) reassure him?

**Considering the text3:** In v4 Jesus' comment tees up a new question from Thomas. What are the key elements of Jesus' answer? How have these points already been shown in John's gospel and how therefore are they a reassurance to the disciples? How does Jesus' answer clash with the opinion of many people about how entry to heaven is possible?

**One to keep chewing on:** If this passage is true, why is it such good news? Are there any parts of this passage that we struggle to believe? If so, why?