

BIBLE READING DAY 41, FRIDAY: APRIL 8

Jesus to Be Forsaken, Denied

John 13:31–38; Matthew 26:30–35; Luke 22:31–38; John 18:1

When Judas had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. And if God is glorified through him, then God will share his own glory with the Son of Man and will glorify him soon. Little children, I will be with you only a little while longer. You will seek me; but as I said to the Jews, so I must now say to you: where I am going you cannot come.

“And now, I give you a new commandment: you are to love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are to love one another. If you love one another, all men will know by this that you are my disciples.”

“Lord, where are you going?” asked Simon Peter.

“Where I am going, you cannot follow now,” replied Jesus, “but you will follow me later.”

“Lord,” said Peter, “why can’t I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you!”

“Will you indeed lay down your life for me?” replied Jesus. “I tell you truly, the cock will not crow before you disown me three times.”

When Jesus finished, they sang a hymn they went over the brook Cedron and went into a garden at the Mount of Olives.

Jesus said to them, “This night, you will all turn away from me, for it is written,

‘I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

But after I am raised from the dead, I will go before you into Galilee.”

Then Peter said to Jesus, “Even if all the others turn away from you, I never will!”

“Simon, Simon,” said Jesus, “behold, Satan wants every one of you, to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and when you have come back, strengthen your brothers.”

“Lord,” said Peter, “I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!”

“I tell you, Peter,” said Jesus, “the cock will not crow this day until you deny three times that you even know me.”

“Even if I have to die with you, I will not disown you,” said Peter. And all the disciples said the same thing.

Then Jesus said, “When I sent you out without purse or provision bag or sandals, did you lack anything?”

“Nothing,” they replied.

“But now, let him who has a purse take it with him,” said Jesus, “and also a provision bag. And let him who has no sword sell his coat and buy one. For I tell you, this that has been written must be fulfilled in me:

‘And he was reckoned with the transgressors.’

“For the things written about me are about to be fulfilled.”

“Lord, see, here are two swords,” they said. And he said to them, “That is enough.”

I AM the Way, the Truth, and The Life, John 14:1–31

“Let not your heart be troubled,” said Jesus. “You believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself, that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”

“Lord,” said Thomas, “we don’t know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

“I am the way, the truth, and the life,” said Jesus. “No one can come to the Father except through me. If you had truly known me, you would have known my Father too. From this time on, you know him and have seen him.”

“Lord,” said Philip, “show us the Father, and that will be all we need.”

“Have I been with you for so long a time,” said Jesus, “and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father. How is it that you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father, dwelling in me, is performing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; at least, believe me for the sake of the works themselves.

“I tell you truly, the man who believes in me will do the works I do. And he will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father and whatever you ask in my name I will do, that the Father may be glorified through the Son. If you ask anything in my name, I will do it.

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Comforter to be with you for ever—the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not recognize him or know him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more; but you will see me. Because I live, you too will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. He who has my commandments and keeps them is the one who loves me, and he who loves me will be loved by my Father. And I will love him and will manifest myself to him.”

Judas (not Iscariot) said, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, but not to the world?”

“If a man loves me,” replied Jesus, “he will obey my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and dwell with him. He who does not love me does not obey my words; and the word you are hearing is not mine, but the Father’s who sent me. I have told you these things while I am still with you. But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have told you.

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. You have heard me say, ‘I am going away, and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it happens, so that when it takes place, you may have faith. I will not talk with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no power over me; but I am doing what the Father commanded me to do, that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go.”

“Peace, inexplicably, is most present when it shouldn’t be present at all. It is most felt when life all around us is at war. Peace comes when it is most needed, like a warrior on the white horse coming over the hill just when things look grim. We can’t describe it; we can’t explain it; and we certainly can’t manufacture it on our own.”

Randy Frazee
Think, Act, Be Like Jesus

Approximate Timeline of Jesus’s Public Ministry														
EARLY LIFE	EARLY MINISTRY	FIRST PASS-OVER	SUMMER	FIRST BOOTHS	WINTER	SECOND PASS-OVER	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	FINAL PASS-OVER

DEVOTIONAL DAY 41 (FRIDAY APRIL 8)

Never The Less, Jesus is More than a Map

Based on John 14

“Never say never.” Almost every “never” phrase I have stated has come to pass. “Oh, I’ll never be a teacher.” “I’ll never live in Texas.” “I’ll never drive a mom car.” Here I am now a kindergarten teacher living in Central Texas, rocking the white minivan. I thought that the plan for my life was going to go one certain way. It would be “my” way, “my” truth, because it was “my” life. I had a plan, a road map to my future, and nothing was going to get in my way ... or so I thought.

Thomas in John 14:5 was also in need of a road map. Jesus had just told His disciples that He was “going to prepare a place for you” (John 14:2-3). He also told them that He would come back and take them to this place so they could be together. Thomas responded by saying, “Lord we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” (John 14:5). He wanted directions to this location that Jesus was talking about. How often in life do we want step by step directions as to what is coming next? People do not like to leave things up for chance. We want a detailed itinerary that tells us the route and how long it will take to get there.

Jesus responded with one of the most famous verses in all of scripture. “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). This statement by Jesus is a promise, a word of comfort to His disciples. They needed to hear these words of comfort because He had just shared with them that He would soon be going away.

They were troubled and confused. Jesus had been the center of all their lives for so long. It was at this time of turmoil that Jesus brought these words of comfort that He was the way, the truth, and the life. Jesus is all they need; there is no need to panic, no need to search desperately for a secret map.

The same is true today as it was then. Jesus is the only way we need to go. Jesus is all the truth that we need to find. Jesus is the life that we need to live. He is the road map.

Jesus, You are the Way and the Truth and the Life. Thank you for directing me at the intersections and giving me the road map that leads to You. I pray for the courage to ask, and to be open to your grace that I may believe with all my heart. Amen.

--By Angela Bacon

WRITE DOWN YOUR THOUGHTS IN RESPONSE TO WHAT YOU HAVE READ:

WHAT DID GOD SAY TO ME?

PRAYER: WHAT DID I SAY TO GOD?

ACTS OF PRAYER: ADORATION, CONFESSION, THANKSGIVING, SUPPLICATION (How God Can Supply Needs)

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