

In the Flesh – John 14 & 16 March 3 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin with an opening question, reading Scripture, and prayer (15 minutes).

OPENING QUESTION: How are you coming today?

SCRIPTURE: Read **John 13:31-14 and John 16** (skip John 15, we'll come back to it next week!)

PRAYER: After reading, have someone pray for your time together.

Transition into some individual time with Scripture (20 minutes).

On your own, take a few minutes to review what your group just read together in **John 13:31-14** and **John 16**. As you go back over these verses, note in your phone or on a notepad all of the things that Jesus' promises his disciples, teaches his disciples, equips his disciples with, or warns his disciples about.

You don't have to do this perfectly. The goal is to simply get you into the text and paying attention to what Jesus is equipping his disciples with!

Once you've noted some of the things that Jesus either promises his disciples, teaches his disciples, equips his disciples with, or warns his disciples about, ask yourself, "What specific equipping, teaching, warning, etc. is Jesus trying to equip me with, teach me, or warn me about?"

Prepare your thoughts to share with your group.

Come back to a large group for discussion about the sermon and John 14 and 16 (30 minutes).

- What did you notice in your review of John 14 and John 16? What are some of the things you noticed that Jesus promises his disciples, teaches his disciples, equips his disciples with, or warns his disciples about?
- What specific equipping, teaching, warning, etc. is Jesus trying to equip me with, teach me, or warn me about?
- Jesus' farewell discourse was hugely important for the disciples. Think about it: They had spent three years with Jesus. They had three years of Jesus telling them, when sending them out: (1) What to do, (2) What to say, and (3) Where to go. Now, with his constant talk of "departure" (see 13:33) and later commissioning of the disciples to be "sent out" (17:18 and 20:21-23), Jesus equips them with all they need to do their mission well. In his sermon, Dan mentioned six specific gifts that Jesus gave his disciples that he also gives to us as his disciples:
 - (1) The Holy Spirit
 - (2) His authority
 - (3) His commands
 - (4) His polarity
 - (5) His peace
 - (6) His promise

Do any of these resonate with what you felt like was being impressed upon you from your reading of John 14 and 16? Which one? Why do you think that one sticks out above the rest?

- How might having the knowledge of these six things have benefited the
 disciples as they embark in their mission of preaching and living the gospel?
 How might a deeper understanding of these things help you in preaching and
 living the gospel?
- What questions do you have about the Holy Spirit, working with the authority of Jesus, living under his commands, experiencing the polarity he brings, living in the peace that he gives, or going through life with his promise of new creation?
- In what ways do you think that you need to apply these chapters to your own life? Explain.

Finish with logistics and prayer requests (5 minutes).

- 1. **Inform your group** about the study devotions available to help you walk through gospel of John series! You can find those devotions here at thecreek.org/devotionals.
- 2. **Sign up today for life group vision nights!** This week, all life groups of The Creek are invited to an evening of worship, prayer, and vision casting! With more than 1000 people in life groups, these Nights are opportunities for groups to come together and renew their covenants and refresh their commitment to one another.

Pick one night between Monday, March 4-Thursday, March 7 to attend with your life group. Each night will be 7-8:30pm in the Worship Center.

The same experience will be offered for all four nights, so please choose a night that works best for you and your entire life group to attend together.

Register <u>HERE</u> to attend.

3. Finish your group session by sharing prayer requests and praying.