



Encouragement for troubled hearts

John 14:1-5 Part 40

¹⁴“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?”

³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

The Holy Bible: New International Version. (1984)

1. What is encouraging about God’s place?

Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head
Matthew 8:19

“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”
Luke 2:49

Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!
John 2:16

2. What is encouraging about God’s presence?

I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

Revelation 21:2-3

“When Jesus said, I am going there to prepare a place for you, we should not think of him returning to heaven and, having arrived there, setting about to construct ‘rooms’ for his disciples to occupy. Rather, it was by his very going—by his betrayal, crucifixion and exaltation—that he made it possible for them to dwell in the immediate presence of God.”

Kruse, C. G

I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us. John 17:20

Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am. John 17:24

But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

John 16:7

“The Holy Spirit destined to take the place of Christ with the apostles (after his ascension to the Father), to lead them to a deeper knowledge of the gospel truth, and give them divine strength needed to enable them to undergo trials and persecutions on behalf of the divine kingdom.”

Outline of Biblical Usage

Is this true for you today as well?

Circle the lines in Psalm 23 that encourage you the most.
How is this a good example of present/future trust in God?

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,
he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23

Community Group Questions:

1. What encouragement do you find in Jesus’ promise of a future place with Him?
2. How does God’s presence (Holy Spirit) give you peace in the midst of your trials and/or suffering today?
3. What is one thing you trust in for peace/encouragement instead of God?
Try asking a friend what that might be if you can’t think of anything.

