

“I Am the Resurrection and the Life”

The Gospel of John

John 13:31–38

Read John 13:31–38

John 13–17 takes place on the Thursday night and early Friday morning right before Jesus is arrested and crucified. Jesus and the disciples begin the evening eating together (Jn. 13–14:31), then they leave Jerusalem (Jn. 14:31) and walk out to the Kidron Valley and into an olive grove (Jn. 18:1). Jesus uses this time to teach the disciples and to prepare them for his impending death. He reassures and comforts them in their grief and confusion. This is the longest section of Jesus’ teaching in the book of John. Meanwhile, the forces of evil are preparing their final attack.

1. Who is the “he” in the first part of verse 31? (Review verses 21–30.)

2. What is Judas intent on doing? (Lk. 22:1–6; Jn. 18:2–3)

3. The departure of Judas symbolically marks the beginning of “the night” (v. 30).
 - a. What will happen during “the night”? (v. 33; Jn. 8:40; 12:31–33; 19:30)

 - b. What has Jesus said that will encourage the disciples even in the darkness? (Jn. 8:12; 12:35–36)

 - c. How will Peter be overtaken by the darkness? (v. 38)

4. Jesus refers to himself as “the Son of Man” (v. 31). What is the calling of the “Son of Man”? (Jn. 3:13–14; Mt. 12:40; 20:18, 28)

5. Jesus speaks about glory five times in verses 31–32. One way to understand “glory” is to think of it in theatrical terms. So to “glorify” someone is to pull back the curtain and shine a spotlight onto him so that **everyone can see exactly who he is**.
 - a. What does the glory that Jesus speaks of in verse 31a look like? (Jn. 12:23–24, 32–33; Is. 53:3–10a; Phil. 2:7–8)

- b. How does Jesus bring glory to God, his Father (vv. 31b–32a)? (Jn. 1:18; 17:4, 26)
 - c. How will God glorify Jesus (v. 32b)? (Acts 13:28–30, 37; Phil. 2:9–11)
6. Peter is having a difficult time processing what Jesus has just said in verse 33.
- a. Why is he troubled? (vv. 36–37)
 - b. What does Peter say he is willing to do for Jesus? (v. 37b)
 - c. How would you characterize Jesus' response? (v. 38)
7. Jesus commands his disciples to love one another (vv. 34–35).
- a. While this command is not new, how is it different? (Compare Lev. 19:18 with verse 34.)
 - b. How will Jesus' death on the cross completely redefine love forever?
 - c. How is this kind of love unlike the emotional love we generally experience?
 - d. If we as a Christian community obey this command, what will happen? (v. 35)
 - e. What might obedience to this command look like for you this week?