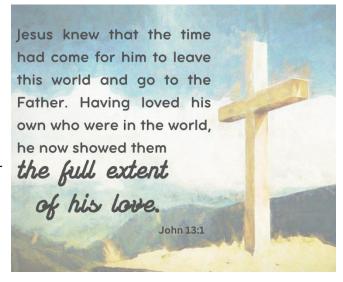


We are women who know the joy of the Spirit-filled life. We live and abide in the love of Jesus, trusting that He is enough to meet every need and satisfy every heart.

Last Instructions

John 13 – 14

On the last night Jesus had with his disciples, he spoke about many things, but perhaps three of these are the most important for us. First, he spoke about the sacrifice of himself. The Lord's Supper, which Jesus instituted that night, reminds us that suffering and death are involved in our redemption and in the redemption of the world. This remembrance meal focuses our attention on the amazing love of God to pay such a price for our lives.



Next, he spoke about kingdom service. He illustrated through his actions that those who are the greatest are the ones who are the servants. He illustrated self-giving love not only in the Cross, but also in the daily acts of sacrifice that kingdom greatness demands.

Finally, Jesus spoke about the Person whose presence would empower and enable the disciples' work. He was concerned that his disciples would feel forsaken and deserted after his ascension, so he assured them that another was coming to take his place. The Holy Spirit was to be their teacher (John 14:26); he was to convince the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8). The Holy Spirit was to empower the disciples' witness for Christ. He was Jesus' guarantee that the disciples would never be alone.

The fact that Jesus discussed the Cross, kingdom greatness, and the Holy Spirit on his last night before Calvary indicates that these were the things that were closest to his heart in the last moments of his earthly life. Certainly, these emphases should be valued by us if we profess to love him.

We must bow in adoration and praise at the love that purchased salvation for us at such a frightful cost.

We must be willing to humble ourselves in service for others as he thus served.

We must open ourselves to the One who takes Jesus' place in the world: the Holy Spirit.

Kinlaw, D. F., & Albertson, C. A. (2004). March 30. In *This Day with the Master: 365 daily meditations*. essay, Zondervan.