

5th Sunday of Easter
May 14, 2017

The Gospel according to John

In the Gospel of John 14:1-12, Jesus is comforting his disciples. His disciples assumed that Jesus would be with them for a long time, but here, He is trying to comfort them in knowing that He will return, and take them into the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus is telling His disciples, that although He is leaving them, He will be with them in spirit.

When questioned about how they would know the way to Heaven, Jesus tells the disciples that He is the way, the truth and the life, meaning that as long as they believed in Him and followed His teachings, there would be a place in Heaven for each of them. And through this statement by Jesus, He also refers to all those who believe in and follow Him, will also reap the benefits accorded the disciples.

This scripture is one of the first in which Jesus is teaching about Faith and its' true meaning. He was teaching His disciples that they must have Faith in Him and His word. Faith is not an easy attribute for anyone to have, because it relies on us to believe in something or someone, without seeing or having tangible proof in it/them. In this scripture, Phillip asks Jesus to show him the Father, which indicates how hard Faith can be. Jesus' response to this request is to remind Phillip that the Father is who is giving Jesus the words and actions to take, in trying to reinforce His teaching that the Father is in Him, and He is in the Father. They are one and in that light, Jesus is telling His disciples they have therefore seen God. Jesus concludes this conversation by entrusting His disciples to follow His teachings by doing His works and to do greater works than He has shown them.

Faith, is surely, one of the hardest concepts to grasp, yet it is the one concept which Jesus relies on and asks all of us to adhere to. In so doing, we will have our place in Heaven one day as well.

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