

Promise of Knowing the Father
John 14:7-11

We are a troubled people among troubled people.

Job bemoaned, “Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble” (Job 14:1).

Joseph Parker, “Every pew has at least one troubled heart.”

We live among a troubled people to whom we should be ministering.

Our neighbor is full of trouble since his daughter was killed in an accident with three other young people. Every time we talk to him he vents his anger, bitterness and desire for revenge.

Jesus Gives Seven Promises to Comfort our Trouble Hearts So we can Comfort Others (14:12).

- 1. The Promise of Heaven** (*John 14:1-2*)
- 2. The Promise of the Coming of Christ** (*John 14:3-6*)
- 3. The Promise of Knowing the Father** (*John 14:7-11*)
- 4. The Promise of Doing Greater Works** (*John 14:12*)
- 5. The Promise of Answered Prayer** (*John 14:13-15*)
- 6. The Promise of the Holy Spirit** (*John 14:16-26*)
- 7. The Promise of Peace** (*John 14:27*)

The first promise: The Promise of Heaven is in the future

The Second promise: The Promise of the Coming of Christ is in the future

The Third promise: The Promise of Knowing the Father is for now

In the first promise, Jesus spoke of “the Father’s House” or Heaven

In the third promise, Jesus spoke of the knowing the Father. Before you can go to the Father’s House you must know the Father.

- I. How can we know the Father? By knowing Christ (14:7-9)
 - A. Jesus promised His disciples they would know Him better
 1. The unsaved know Christ factually
 2. The immature know Christ relationally (John 17:3)
 3. The mature know Christ personally (14:7; Phil 3:10)
 - B. Philip had not advanced beyond knowing Christ relationally (14:8)
 1. Philip’s words are like his first in 1:45-46. For Philip “Seeing is Believing.”
 2. Philip was looking at God in his troubling circumstance, yet because he did not know Christ intimately, he did not recognize God in his circumstance
- C. To know the Father we know His Son (14:9)

Christ “is the image of the invisible God” (Col 1:15)

 1. In John 1, Christ is omnipresent

2. In John 2:1-12, Christ is omnipotent
3. In John 2:13-25, Christ is omniscient

II. How can we know Christ? By knowing His Word (14:10-11)

A. Philip said, "Seeing is believing"

B. Jesus said, "Believing is seeing"

In verses 4-7 the keyword is "know" mentioned seven times

In verses 8-9, the keyword is "see" or "show" mentioned four times

In verses 10-11 the keyword is "believe" mentioned three

C. We must His words through which the Father works (v.10)

Faith is believing the promises of God's Word.

We need "a Bible-reading movement"