Study 16

The Gospel of John

Love made plain!

Introduction

John 13 – 17, the so-called Upper Room Discourse, is the second major section of John's Gospel. In it the focus shifts away from Jesus' witness to the crowds and onto Jesus' disciples. The section begins with Jesus washing His disciples' feet – an enacted parable in which Jesus not only anticipates His coming death but explains it and highlights the demand that the cross makes upon every disciple. The section ends with Jesus' prayer for His disciples and their gospel life and ministry in a hostile world. In this section of the Gospel of John we thus hear, more clearly than ever, what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

Study Questions

These questions help you to see clearly <u>what the text is saying</u>. This is a vital first step towards understanding what the text means. The questions should be answered from the text itself.

Read John 13vs1- 30. Answer the following questions:

1. What is the temporal (time) setting for the events recorded in John 13-17. What perspective does this give to Jesus' actions and words.

2. What does the foot-washing reveal about Jesus? (2 things to note – vs 1 & vs 3)

3. According to John 13vs1-30, why did Judas betray Jesus?

4. What 2 things do we learn about the Cross from Jesus' actions? (See vs 10-11 & vs 14-15)

5. What does John 13vs18-30 teach us about God's control of the events leading up to Jesus' death?

Think it Through

1. What has this study taught you about being a Christian disciple?