

## How Can I Encourage Someone?

### Lesson 43

## John 13:33-14:6

### Memory Verse

**Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven. Matthew 5:16**

### Introduction

Have you ever had someone say something really nice to you? It feels good to get compliments and encouraging words. Let's see what Jesus does in today's lesson.

Jesus spent lots of time with His 12 disciples. They traveled around the land together for three years. Near the end of Jesus' time, He tried to help His disciples see that something amazing was going to happen. They did not always "get it."

Jesus and His friends ate a special supper and were talking together. Jesus knew that He needed to help them understand some of the things that were going to happen in the next few days.

### Scripture

#### John 13:33

**"My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.**

Jesus tried to help them understand that He would die soon. He told them that where He was going they could not go yet.

#### John 13:34

**"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.**

### Discussion

**Ask: What new commandment did Jesus give His disciples?**

Jesus told them that the most important thing that they could do was to love others.

**Ask: What did Jesus say about this new commandment?**

He told them to love others so that they would know that they really loved God.

His friends were confused. They could not imagine what Jesus meant, especially about going away. They did not understand. Peter spoke up and asked Jesus where He was going.

Can you imagine how you would feel if someone close to you told you that they were going to die tomorrow? You would probably be confused and upset, too.

**John 14:1**

**"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me." These words helped His friends see how much Jesus loved them and cared for them. Jesus knew that He would come back to life in three days, but His friends did not understand this either.

**John 14:2-3**

**In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.**

**Ask: What did Jesus tell the disciples He was going to do?**

Jesus also told His friends that He was going up to Heaven to prepare a place for all His friends and followers.

**Ask: What promise did He make?**

He also gave them a promise. He told His friends that He would come back! That must have given Jesus' friends much hope.

**John 14:4-5**

**You know the way to the place where I am going."**

**Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"**

Jesus told His friends that they knew the way to the place He was going.

Thomas was not sure what Jesus meant. So he asked Jesus how he could know the way.

**John 14:6**

**Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.**

**Ask: What did Jesus say about the road to heaven?**

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Jesus tried to encourage His friends when they were upset and hurt. He helped them understand that even though He was leaving, He would return.

**Ask: How can we encourage others?**

When we encourage others, we give them courage and uplift their spirits. We help them see that God will take care of their needs and help them through the hard times. We can do this several ways. We can go and be with someone to provide company for them. We

can speak words of comfort to them. We can pray for them. We can laugh or cry with them. We can read the Bible. We can talk about the hope that is in us.

The best encouragement that we can give someone is to let them know “the way.” Jesus told Thomas and His friends that He was the only way to Heaven. We can only go to Heaven if we believe and trust in Jesus. We must realize that we have done wrong and tell God we are sorry for our sins. We must tell Jesus that we believe He died and rose again. Then, we must ask Him to come into our lives and help us do things His way. Jesus will hear our prayer and take away all the wrongs we have done. He will live in us and help us do things His way. He promises that He will never leave us and will take us to Heaven one day.

**Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?**

God wants to change our lives and our hearts. God wants us to know Him and to know His love. God does not force us to follow Him. God waits for us to invite Him to be a part of our lives.

**Romans 10:9-10**

**That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.**

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and