

## Liberty LifeGroups Discussion

# Asking for a Friend

February 7 , 2021

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This Discussion Guide is prepared to help believers apply the truths of Scripture to life. As you prepare, make sure you have read the Scripture text and listened to the Sermon. If you missed the Sermon, go to [www.experienceliberty.org](http://www.experienceliberty.org) and select the Sermon title listed above.

### Can I be sure I'm going to Heaven?

If I had to grade myself on a scale of one to ten, with one being unsure ten being absolutely sure, where would you rank yourself in terms of your certainty of going to Heaven?

In this lesson we will learn how we can have 100% assurance of our eternal home in Heaven.

#### John 14:1-6

*1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know." 5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

Jesus begins by stating a startling fact in the previous chapter of John of His imminent departure. To the hearts of the disciples, it was a distressing moment. Peter asks of Jesus where He was going. Jesus reply was "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward."

Today we have the privilege of knowing what Jesus was talking about and where Jesus was going, but in the disciple's time they had little "heart assurance" of what was coming.

*1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me*

The fear of the unknown is often crippling to us.

- Tell of your % assurance that you are going to heaven.
- What do you think Heaven will be like?
- The Bible describes Heaven as a kingdom, an inheritance, a country, a city, and a home. What if we really believed that Heaven is real and is our eternal home. How would that make your Christian life different?
- What are some reasons for not believing you are going to heaven? When you doubt your salvation, who is responsible for the doubt?
- Jesus tells us to not let our hearts be troubled. How do you find peace in the midst of trouble? What might be some reasons we don't find comfort from the reality of Heaven?
- So, you are not home yet, and instead, according to the Scriptures, you are an "Alien," an "Exile," a "sojourner," a "wayfarer," a "pilgrim," and a "stranger." In other words, you are not home. What is your anticipation level for meeting Jesus?

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Recall that in first century Israel, the custom was going to be that the betrothed would go off to his father's house and there he would prepare a 'meno', or dwelling place for His bride. It might be a separate place or simply a special room. That is where he would bring his bride. Part of the fun was that he would come at a time she would never know. It would often be in the middle of the night and he would often bring his friends with him. There would be the shout of a trumpet and she would come out and it looked almost like a sanctioned elopement.

- The Bible describes the church as the Bride of Christ! How does the groom-bride of the first century Israel pour over into the current church?
- What does it mean when Jesus says that where I am, there you may be also? What is the motive behind the promise?

*4 And where I go you know, and the way you know." 5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

- Verse 4 tells us a telling truth of our confidence in Christ. "Where I go, you know the way." Or maybe we should realize the truth of our own misunderstanding of Heaven. We know the way. It is the only way. What way is the way?
- Why do different religions believe differently? Do Hindus, Buddhists, Isalmists think differently?
- How do we know our religion is the right one?
- Why does society look at Christianity as narrow minded?

There are four levels of 'knowing' this Gospel.

- i. The first level of knowing is just knowing a fact.
- ii. The second level of knowing is understanding the truth behind that fact.
- iii. The third level of knowing is believing in a person and that moves us into the relational dimension.
- iv. But, the fourth level of knowing is the one that John stresses. It is the knowledge of a deep union with another person. It is union and communion with a person. That union, then, is the real 'I-Thou' relationship that will truly satisfy us.
  - What level are you on in your relationship with Jesus?
  - When you think about Christianity, is it exclusive or inclusive and why?