

These notes suggest ways you can prepare for the sermon that will be preached on Sept. 12, 2021 at First Evan. Feel free to use them for class or small group discussion. Feel free to pick just one or use them all.

1. Review Question: Jesus said what He did to His followers at the Last Supper for a reason. What were His reasons and how does this relate to us? How do these verses support your answer? Verses that indicate what is to come – John 13:19; 33, 36; 16:28. Verses that indicate why Jesus is saying what He is – John 14:27, 29; 15:11; 16:1.
2. Jim will especially focus today's sermon on one section from the Upper Room Discourse: "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 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. And you know the way where I am going." Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me" (John 14:1-6)

What observations would you make about what this passage teaches? How might principles from this passage keep someone calm when things are falling apart?

3. In John 14:1, Jesus exhorts his followers to not let their hearts be troubled. The word translated "be troubled" is the same word translated "terrified" in Matthew 14:26. How does this help us understand what Jesus is predicting the eleven (and we) will encounter after his death? In what way could we be easily drawn toward a panic attack as we face life today? In what ways are you personally drawn toward anxiety?
4. Also in John 14:1, Jesus indicates that trust in Him is the antidote to terror. How does Proverbs 18:10 help explain what Jesus teaches: *The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it and is safe* (Proverbs 18:10)?
5. In John 14:1, Jesus exhorts His followers to not be troubled. But Jesus uses this precise word to describe how He is feeling in John 12:27. What is going on here? Is Jesus telling the eleven not to do something that He is, in fact, doing?
6. Have you ever experienced a situation where God prompted you to understand, or do, or say something? Tell what happened. How did you know God was the one doing the prompting?
7. When Jesus says, "I am the way," one of the primary meanings of this statement is that He is like a guide who shows us the right way to move through life. How does what Jesus did as recorded in John 13:3-15 relate to Jesus as our guide? What "way" is Jesus

extolling in this account?

Principle One: One Way – Following His direction is the smart play.