



Four Portraits, One *Savior*



That you may
have *life*

When Life is More than You Can Bear

John 16:12-14

What **words** might we “**unpack**” in today’s scripture?

- “I have **many more** things to say to you, but you **cannot bear** them now. ¹³ “But when **He**, the Spirit of truth, comes, **He** will **guide** you into all the **truth**; for **He** will not **speak** on **His** own initiative, but whatever **He** hears, **He** will **speak**; and **He** will disclose to you what is to come. ¹⁴ “**He** will **glorify** Me, for **He** will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. (Jn. 16:12-14 NAU)
- **How to “unpack” the words?**
 1. **Pray** – ask the Holy Spirit to help you.
 2. Get “**behind**” the words. Put yourself in the story.
 3. Consult a “source.”
 4. **Look for application.**



1. “I have **many more** things to say to you... v12.

A. *Many more... How? (less than 24 hours to live)*

B. *Jesus speaks in countless **nonverbal** ways:*

1. *Cross. John 19:7; Deut 21:22-23*

2. *Resurrection. Gal 3:13-14*

3. *Life after death. Heb 2:14; John 11:25-26; 1 John 3:8*

C. *... Jesus continues to speak after death:*

- 9x “He”

- 2x “speak”

- *Holy Spirit. V 13, v7; v3:3; Acts 2; Gal 3:13-14*



What changed the verdict?



John 21:15 “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” “Yes Lord, you know I love you.” “Feed my sheep.”



*Lk. 22:32 but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, **when once you have turned again**, strengthen your brothers."*



2. ... *but you **cannot bear them** now.*” v12.

A. *Why the delay?*

- *Why not now?*
- *Jesus knows what is coming.*

B. *What does the delay tell us about Jesus?*

- *On-time God.*
- *Sees the end in the beginning.*
- *He cares.*
- *He knows we need grace.*



What if what “you cannot bear now” means that suffering is coming tomorrow?

A. Jesus knows what is coming.

B. Jesus points them to the “Helper”:

- *V16:14 “... will **disclose** to you what is to come.”*
- *14:18 “I will **not leave** you as **orphans**. I will come to you.*
- ***Fix my eyes** on Jesus. Heb 12:1-2*
- ***Practice** unceasing prayer. John 16:24*





Derek Redmond – 1992 Olympics.

He hobbled across the finish line – but not alone.

*"I will not leave you as orphans; **I will come to you**. (Jn. 14:18 NAU)*



In a fallen world, the question is not whether life will present us with challenges/hurdles to overcome; the question is whether we will try to overcome them alone.





3. *When life is more than you can bear... our ability to hold on to the truth will be harder. Believers must depend on our Truth Guide to navigate such times.*

- *Jn. 16:13-14 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will **guide you** into **all the truth**; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will **disclose to you** what is to come. ¹⁴ "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said, that He takes of Mine, and will disclose it to you.*

1. *Guide. Gal 5:16-17*

2. *Truth.*

3. *So that – we will glorify Christ.*



We live in a world where truth is being challenged from all sides. The Holy Spirit does not change the definition of truth when it is threatened. He grounds us in it!



Call to Action.

- 1. Have you allowed the truth of who Jesus is to be threatened by something in your life? As Fall approaches, are their “threats” to the peace Jesus offers in the Holy Spirit? Why not yield this area of your life to the Holy Spirit? Join a group of believers who are also navigating “narrow passages” in their lives.*
- 2. Is there an “encumbrance” that is keeping you from “fixing your eyes” on Jesus? Are you avoiding the counsel of the Spirit by hanging on to the encumbrance? Will you make the decision to “put it down”?*

