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Doing Greater Works than Jesus John 14:1-18

¹ “Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

(Central point for what He is trying to convey: Jesus is God)

² “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.

(Because I am God I can promise you a place in heaven)

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.

(I can and I will do it, to prove that I am God – Unprecedented offer of access to heaven!)

⁴ “And you know the way where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.

(I am the ONLY way)

⁷ “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him.” ⁸ Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.”

(The vast majority of the world believes in God - approx. 98%+- but most people do NOT believe that Jesus is the ONLY way to God)

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, Show us the Father? ¹⁰ “Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. ¹¹ “Believe Me that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me; otherwise believe on account of the works themselves.

(If my preaching does not do convince you, let my miracles prove that I am the way to the Father God)

¹² "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go to the Father.

(Because of the compounding effect of the Holy Spirit in you and me at the right hand of the Father and your faith in my divinity)

¹³ "And whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son

*(by people believing in my divinity through the answers to those prayers
= Prayer Evangelism)*

¹⁴ "If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

(The key is to ask for Him to provide the answer in the form of miracles)

¹⁵ "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments

(To ask for miracles to convince those that do not believe that I am divine and the ONLY way to God).

¹⁶ "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. ¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you

(in the person of the Holy Spirit).

SCRIPTURE READING FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER - 1Corinthians 11:17-33

“Discerning the Body of Christ”

¹⁷ But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse. ¹⁸ For, in the first place, when you come together as a (one) church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part, I believe it. ¹⁹ For there must also be factions among you, in order that those who are approved may have become evident among you.

²⁰ Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, ²¹ for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk. ²² What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God, and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

²³ For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed (by Judas) took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, “**This is My body**, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” ²⁵ In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

(Two brackets: His death and His return encapsulating something. What is it?)

²⁷ Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord.

²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly. ³⁰ For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep. ³¹ But if we judged ourselves rightly, we should not be judged. ³² But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord in order that we may not be condemned along with the world.

³³ So then, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

Small Group Questions

1. What insights would you like to share from Sunday's message?
What were your take aways?
2. Read John 14:1-11. What claims does Jesus make about Himself?
What evidence does Jesus give for His claims (verse 11)?
3. Summarize Jesus' statement in John 14:6-7 in your own words.
How would you respond to someone who says "there are many ways to God"? Share any experiences you have had in explaining this to others.
4. Read John 14:12-15. List the promises Jesus makes in this passage.
Are there conditions to these promises? If so, what are they?

Discuss what Jesus meant by "greater works" (verse 12).

When we pray for miracles ("greater works") that meet the felt needs of unbelieving people what does Jesus promise (verse 13)? What is the result? This is a key principle in Prayer Evangelism. Share any experiences you have had in this area.

5. Read John 14:16-18. What does this passage teach about the Holy Spirit? Discuss with your small group the ways the Holy Spirit is active in your life.