

Growing Pains.

APRIL 18th 2020

A. Intro -

1. In the medical community there is a term known as “A Cancer Cluster” (Definition).
 - a. Why they look for it? To gain additional information. Cause? Liability? Safety. Etc.?
2. Earthquake epicenter - (Triangulate method). To gain additional insights as to the damage; the risk; safety;

the liability; etc.
3. NY City - the center of the COVID-19.
4. Jn. 14 - A preponderance of promises. It tells you that something special is going on.

B. The preponderance of promises Jn. 14 (nine promises)

1. (vs 2) There are mansions prepared for you.
2. (vs 3) I will come back for you. Out of sight it does not mean you are out of my mind.
3. (vs. 12) You will do greater works than Jesus. You will experience purpose and satisfaction from doing His work instead of just walking in His presence and watching Him work.
4. (vs. 13-14) Whatever we ask He will do. Your request will still be heard.
5. (vs. 16) The Holy Spirit will be sent. You will have help and comfort along the way.
6. Because I live you will live also (vs. 19). Your future has already been provided for.
7. If you keep my commandments I will love and manifest myself to him (vs. 21). By following my ways you can still experience my Presence.
8. If you keep my word the Father and I will make our home with you (vs. 23). I will dwell with you.
9. Peace I leave with you (vs. 27).

C. Jesus statements leading up to John 14.

1. Jn. 11 - The story of Lazarus

- a. Jesus resurrects Lazarus (1-44).
- b. The plot to kill Jesus (45-50). READ THIS

2. Jn. 12 - Mary anoints Jesus feet at Bethany.

- a. When Mary anoints Jesus feet the fragrance fills the house and she is criticized by Judas (1-6).
- b. Jesus statement about His burial (7-8). READ THIS
- c. The priests plot to kill Lazarus also. (9-11) READ THIS
- d. The triumphal entry (12-18).
- e. The priests statement and reaction (12:19). READ THIS
- f. The Greeks seek Jesus (20-22).
- g. Jesus predicts His death (23-24). READ THIS.
- h. Jesus predicts His death on the cross (27-33) READ THIS
- i. Jesus says He won't be around forever (12:35). READ THIS

3. Jn. 13 The last supper (1-20).

- a. He tells them of His betrayal (21) READ THIS.
- b. I am going away (33-36). READ THIS

D. Why does He give them so many promises in this cluster of Jn. 14? Jesus prepares His followers to live in a different reality than what they are used to. He was leaving them, so He was trying to prepare

them for living by faith instead of visibly present in their lives.

1. What are they used to? Living with Him visibly present in their lives.

- a. His presence.

- b. His guidance.
- c. Protection.
- d. Providing for them. The feeling of confidence that they would have.

2. What are they going to face?

- a. Living w/o Him visibly present in their lives.
- b. Walking by faith instead of by sight.
- c. Facing all the new situations on their own.

E. Jesus told the disciples that things were going to change. They didn't realize all the implications of what He was saying at the time. He not only warned them in advance but told them how to prepare for the

coming changes. So life will be different after COVID-19 and if we take His warnings and example

to heart we will apply the following to our lives.

1. He told them repeatedly to believe what He said and to trust His words. That is not as traumatic for us as it was for them, but it is still great advice for us to follow.
2. He gave them many promises to assure them of His love and care for them. Begin to memorize His promises to gain strength in your life today.
3. He promised that the Holy Spirit would be sent to comfort them and provide aid for them. Ask for Him daily in your life (Lk. 11:13).
4. He reminded them that even though they might feel abandoned and lonely that they were not orphans because He cared for them.
5. Preparing for change is difficult, but a very important step in being prepared. Jesus showed this by His repeated warnings and the cluster of promises in Jn. 14. (Elwood Staff example).