**Jesus and You**

**The Word**

Read together John 13:33-14:14

**The Big Idea**

In the midst of our concerns and our desires in this present world, we are invited into an intimate and obedient relationship with Jesus Christ as the deepest answer to our longings.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. In contrast to Jesus’ larger vision for the kingdom, the disciples’ focus was almost entirely on what they might gain right now by their close association with Jesus. In what ways do we inappropriately look to Jesus for what we might gain right now from him? In what ways is it appropriate to look to Jesus for what we might gain right now from him?

2. Consider the comments made about Jesus as the way, the truth, and the life. What was most helpful for you in that?

3. Most of us are open to an encounter with Jesus right up to the point where it may disrupt what is our actual sense of security or identity. Take a moment to honestly assess your life at this time. Where do you find this to be true of yourself?

4. As you look ahead to the summer, how practically can you move out of your own self-centered kingdom and “seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness” in fellowship with Jesus?

**Sermon Outline**

I. Biblical Context

A. John 13-17 describes the period of transition from Jesus’ ministry to the small group of disciples to his ministry to all people throughout history and geography through his Spirit-empowered disciples

B. Jesus lays out a view of the kingdom that contrasts with the expectations of the disciples for a present-earthly kingdom of power and privilege. Their focus was almost entirely on what they might gain right now by their close association with Jesus.

 1. James, John, and their mom (Mk 10:35-41)

 2. Peter (Jn 13:33-38)

 3. Thomas (Jn 14:5)

 4. Philip (Jn 14:8-11)

II. Cultural context

A. “Some people suspect that our world is getting worse, and for good reason. The only way that I know to return to that sense of optimism and that growth is the use of technology to create abundance.” - Sam Altman

B. But what is meant by “abundance?” How do we define that?

III. Personal context

A. Phillip’s question to Jesus is at the heart of every person looking for comfort, meaning, and purpose: “Lord, show us the Father.”
B. Philip’s expectations are being challenged and disrupted, so he’s admitting:
“I thought I knew but I don’t, show me!” This is the cry of our culture right now. We are confused, we are anxious, we are filled with doubt and distrust, we
are crying out, “show me, help me, heal me, save me.”

IV. The answer is encountering Jesus through an intimate and obedient relationship

A. Most of us are open to an encounter with Jesus right up to the point where it may disrupt what is our actual sense of security or identity.

B. We all want our little kingdoms of prosperity, control, and power (the temptations Jesus experienced in the wilderness).
C. Jesus calls us to encounter him as

1. The Way: he invites us into a very specific way of being in the world through specific values, practices, and priorities
2. The Truth: this way of life is directed towards definitive truths
3. The Life: it is only through this relationship with Jesus that we experience true eternal life

D. This life with Jesus calls us out of our self-centered kingdoms and into a life in which we

1. Serve others

2. Give generously

3. Trust without conditions

E. The true good life is becoming the kind of people who Jesus can say, “Ask in my name and I will do it.”