

**Back Sermon Notes of
Assistant Pastor Manuel Hamme's Sermon on January 11, 2015
"John 14 – Show us the Father"**

[Today's sermon shows us, through Scriptures, who God is and what kind of relationship he wants with us as His special creation.]

Notes:

Introduction:

- Slides of church signs:
 - "What is missing from CH..CH? UR"
 - "If your life stinks – We have a pew for you"
 - "Now is a good time to visit; our pastor is on vacation"
 - "Can't sleep – Come listen to a sermon"

Background to John 14:

- In John 13, Jesus ate his final meal with his disciples.
- There He established new Christian traditions such as foot washing and partaking of the bread and cup.
- Jesus talked about that one of his disciples would betray him.
- He also said that Peter would disown Him three times.

John 14:4, (Jesus told His disciples) You know the way to the place where I am going." 5) Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

6) Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7) If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

8) Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

- The Pharisees continually asked Jesus this question.

John 14:9, Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

10) Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. 11) Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.

- The work of God the Father that Jesus showed His disciples and others was His healing of the sick, healing the blind and raising the dead.

Growth and development of our relationship with God:

John 1:1, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2) He was with God in the beginning. 3) Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4) In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5) The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

- The disciple John ties in the first thoughts of his gospel with Genesis 1.
- He also shows that light, spiritual light which represents God, is good versus spiritual darkness which is not good.

Gen. 1:1, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2) Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

3) And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. 4) God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. 5) God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.”

- Genesis shows us that “light was good.”

26) Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, in the likeness of ourselves; and let them rule over the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the animals, and over all the earth, and over every crawling creature that crawls on the earth.”

27) So God created humankind in his own image; in the image of God he created him: male and female he created them. 28) God blessed them: God said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea, the birds in the air and every living creature that crawls on the earth.”

- Genesis shows us that mankind was set apart from the rest of God’s creation.

How God has revealed Himself:

- God has revealed himself as Creator.
- God is supreme ruler.
- God says light is good because it represents Him.
- God wants a unique close relationship with humanity.

Abraham’s trust in God:

Gen. 22:6, Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, 7) Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied. “The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

8) Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together. 9) When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10) Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

- Abraham believed and trusted God as opposed to Adam and Eve who believed Satan.

Hebrews 11: 1,7 By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, 18) even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” 19) Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

- Hebrews shows us how great Abraham’s faith was in God.
- It also shows Abraham’s relationship with God.

Purpose of the Law:

Romans 5:13, To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone’s account where there is no law. 14) Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

Leviticus 19: 18 “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

34) The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.

- These two Scriptures shows the intent of the Law.
- God tells us how we should interact with others.
- We are to love others as we reflect God’s loves for us.

Galatians 3:19 (Amplified Version) What then was the purpose of the Law? It was added [later on, after the promise, to disclose and expose to men their guilt] because of transgressions and [to make men more conscious of the sinfulness] of sin; and it was intended to be in effect until the Seed (the Descendant, the Heir) should come, to and concerning Whom the promise had been made. And it [the Law] was arranged and ordained and appointed through the instrumentality of angels [and was given] by the hand (in the person) of a go-between [Moses, an intermediary person between God and man].

Romans 7: 7 ... I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” ...

12) So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

- God gave us the Law to help us understand what sin is and how it distorts our relationship with Him.
- But humanity took the Law as a relationship of fear and that God doesn't love us.

God's discipline:

Hebrews 12: 4, In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5) And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,

- Discipline by God is important for us to understand.
- God's discipline of us is for our benefit.
- God doesn't enjoy disciplining humanity just as we as parents don't enjoy disciplining our own children.
- But, like God, we know it's for their good so that they won't suffer in the future.

6) because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son." 7) Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? 8) If you are not disciplined – and everyone undergoes discipline – then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.

- God wants the best for us as His children.

9) Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! 10) They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. 11) No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Maturity brings greater understanding:

1 Corinthians 13:11, When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.

God's relationship to us consists of love:

1 John 4: 8, Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9) This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11) Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12) No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

19) We love because he first loved us. 20) Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21) And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Coming of the Holy Spirit:

John 14:15, “If you love me, keep my commands. 16) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – 17) the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you...

23) Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24) Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. 25) “All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

- Jesus told us that the coming of the Holy Spirit is so important to us, because He helps us with our relationship with God.

Romans 8: 14, For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 15) The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” 16) The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. 17) Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

- Paul emphasizes the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Galatians 4:2, The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. 3) So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. 4) But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5) to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. 6) Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” 7) So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

- This shows us the importance of the Holy Spirit and what He is accomplishing in our lives.

Galatians 5: 22, But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23) gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24) Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25) Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26) Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

- Through the Holy Spirit we reflect the nature of God.
- Church sign: God expects spiritual fruit, not religious nuts

Concluding comments:

- It takes time for us to gain a greater understanding of God and his relationship with us.

- Church sign: What if God asked you for a sign?
- What sign would you give to others that you are a child of God?

Closing Prayer