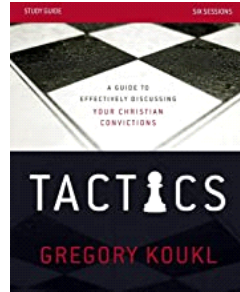


## Small Group

In a world increasingly indifferent to Christian truth, followers of Christ need to be equipped to communicate with those who do not speak their language or accept their source of authority.



In this Small Group we will learn from apologist and radio host Gregory Koukl who demonstrates how to get in the driver's seat in discussions about faith, keeping any conversation moving with thoughtful, artful tact:

- Initiate conversations effortlessly
- Present the truth clearly, cleverly, and persuasively
- Graciously and effectively expose faulty thinking
- Skillfully manage the details of dialogue
- Maintain an engaging, disarming style even under attack

Location, date, and time to be determined.

Sign up at the Welcome Table today.

See Karl Yorgey or Pastor Rick for more information.

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**Lifted Up Ministries is looking for people to share their gifts as mentors.**

### Christian Mentorship Involves:

- Help mentees become confident in Christ, passing our faith to others as God instructs us in Psalm 78:1-8
- To listen, clarify and encourage
- To give wise counsel
- To help set personal goals
- Accountability



**liftedup** MINISTRIES (LUM) is a non-profit Christian ministry located at 2675 E. High Street, Pottstown, PA

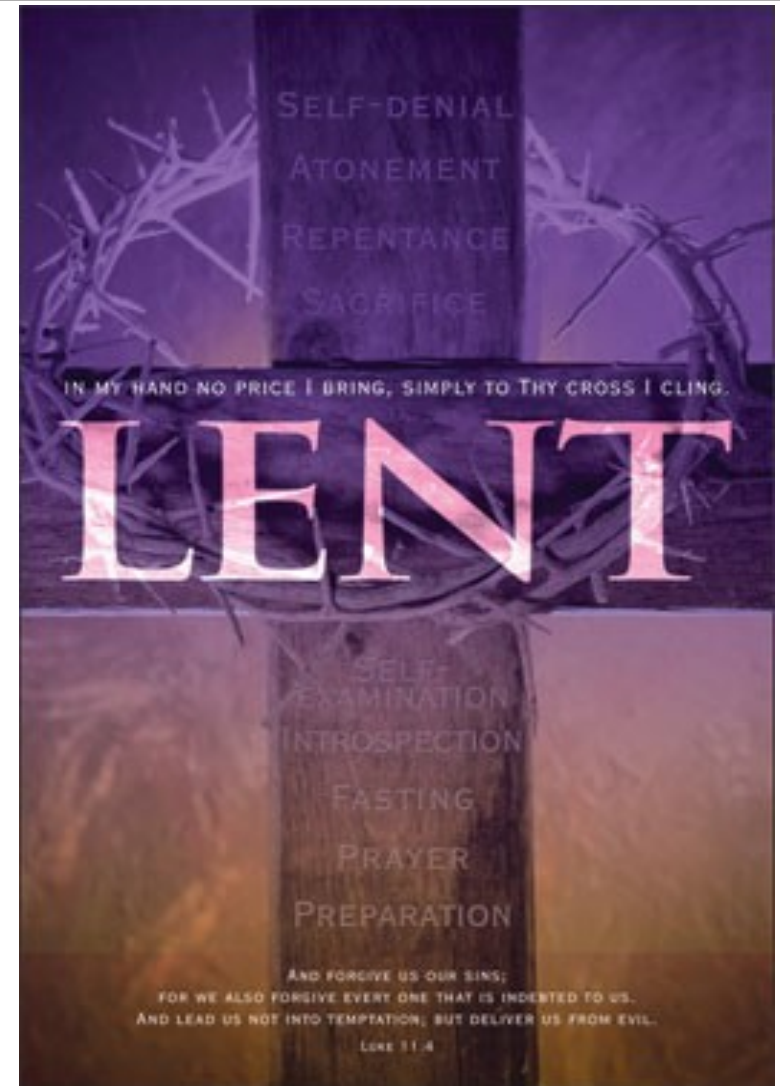
**If interested, please contact Priscilla Brown at  
610-412-8118**



March 14, 2021

10:30 A.M.

## Don't Be Troubled



# Order of Service

## Announcements

### Welcome

### Preparation for Worship

-----**God's Greatness**-----

### Call to Worship

**Hymns of Adoration:** "Grace Wins" . . . . . Matthew West  
"Amazing Grace". . . . . Newton/Rees/Excell

### Prayer of Invocation

**Affirmation of Faith:** The Apostles' Creed<sup>1</sup>

**Hymn of Praise:** "The Father's House". . . . Ashbury/Hastings/Hulse

**Introducing Tim and Holly Howden:** DiscipleMakers

### Children are Dismissed to Sunday School

----- **God's Renewal**-----

### Understanding Ourselves Rightly

### Public Confession

### Silent Confession

**Assurance of Pardon and Comfort:** 1 John 2:1-2

**Song of Renewal:** "Lord Have Mercy For What We Have Done"  
. . . . . Papa/Boswell/Keyes/Tealy

-----**God's Grace**-----

**Scripture Reading:** John 14:1-7 (ESV)

### Prayer

**The Sermon:** The Farewell Discourses

"Don't Be Troubled"

### Celebration of the Lord's Supper

### Words of Institution:

**Hymn:** "Oh the Deep Deep Love". . . . . Bob Kauflin

### Prayer of Approach

-----**God's Blessing**-----

**Parting Hymn:** "Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

. . . . . Getty/Kauflin/Papa/Boswell/Merker

### Benediction

## **God's Gracious Provision 3/7/2021**

**Offering:** \$3,074.00 **Feed Pottstown:** \$100.00

**Attendance:** 55

*Your offering may be place in the box at the Welcome Table.*

## **2. We Have Good Resources to not be in Turmoil.**

***"If you had known me, you would have known my Father also You trust in God; trust also in me"***

Jesus is saying, "If by daily listening to Me and thinking over My words and My works you had learned to know Me, you would have known My Father also." Maybe Jesus would tell us the same thing. "If you had taken the time to think through what I am saying and think through the works that I am doing, you would have known Me." Our faith suffers because of it. The strength of our faith, the health of our faith, suffers because of it.

## **3. We have the Father, Son, and the Spirit so don't be in turmoil.**

***"From now on, you have seen Him. You do know Him and you have seen Him."***

Jesus knows, as they do not but they will discover quickly, a new period begins even with the events of the night that they are in. He knows that they will see the Father give His Son over to His enemies and to death. He knows that they will see the Father raise Him from the dead and seat Him at His right hand. They will see Jesus send His Spirit to indwell His people beginning with this very group of men, this very group of disciples, and they will know the Father as never before. In all that is to come, these disciples will be able to say, "We have seen the Father." A wealth of comfort is soon to come their way, though much more grief and much more heartache. But Jesus bounds that for them by saying, "From now on, you do know Him and you have seen Him." They'll think about those words in the days to come more deeply and more profoundly.

## **Summary**

Let not your heart be troubled, because there's a place for you in my Father's house. And don't let your heart be troubled, because Jesus prepared the place for you. He opened the way. He is the way. Remember to not let your heart be troubled, because Jesus himself is your dwelling place and he will come and take you to himself. And finally, don't let your heart be troubled, because Jesus and the Father are one, so that if have Jesus you have the Father.

<sup>1</sup>Piper, J. (2014). *Sermons from John Piper (2000–2014)*. Minneapolis, MN: Desiring God.

<sup>2</sup>Boice, J. M. (2005). *The Gospel of John: an expositional commentary* (p. 1059). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

<sup>3</sup>Carson, D. A. (1988). *The Farewell Discourse and Final Prayer of Jesus: An Exposition of John 14–17* (p. 21). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.

troubled minds. Such faith would dispel the nagging suspicions that they were being abandoned. Indeed, how could men who had every reason to trust in Jesus as they trusted in God stoop to think that his departure was not for their ultimate good?<sup>3</sup>

**b. Don't be troubled, but trust me, because I myself am going to make ready the place of dwelling with God.**

Verses 2–3a: “In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you. . .

**The faith of those first believers was stable and strong in proportion** as it rested in Jesus as in God, believing that Jesus’ departure was a return to his Father’s presence, a return which itself opened up the Father’s house to them.

**The faith of believers at the end of the twentieth** century will be stable and strong in proportion as it rests in Jesus as in God, believing that Jesus’ departure via the cross, now an event almost two thousand years in the past, was his triumphant return to the Father, and the means by which we too need never fear abandonment.

**c. Don't be troubled, but trust me, because I will take you to myself, and I will get you there.**

Verse 3: “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”

*One of the most important phrases in this passage: I will take you to myself. This shifts the focus from a place to a person. Where Jesus is, there is heaven. What is the essence of heaven? The immediate presence of Jesus. So when he says, “I go to prepare a place for you,” isn’t the essence of what he is saying: I go this night through death for you, and I go Easter Sunday morning out of death for you, so that I myself might be your living dwelling place.*

**d. I am the Way, and The Truth, and the Life**

“And you know the way to where I am going.”<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Peter and the other disciples, and you and I, do not need to have an untrusting turmoil of soul that we are imperfect, wrath-deserving, unworthy followers of Jesus. Our sin does not mean that our place in God’s household will be unavailable, or unsuitable. Because Jesus, this night, goes to purchase our forgiveness and become the way to the Father. He makes our room not only available, but suitable and certain for his redeemed sheep. So let not your hearts be troubled. Trust me.

## Upcoming Events

**Tonight, Sunday March 14** from 6-8 P.M.

**Youth Group** will meet at the Deicherts for Bible Study and Fellowship.

**Wednesday, March 17** 7:00 P.M.

Coventry-Warwick Ministerium Lenten Service on youtube, Can be viewed any time. The link is on the GCC website. This week’s speaker is Pastor Keith Price.

**Saturday, March 20 Men’s Breakfast** at Shady Maple Smorgasbord. Make your reservation with Matt Deichert TODAY.

**Sunday, March 21** 6:15-7:15 P.M. **GCC Prayer Gathering** at the House of Prayer 1300 High Street, Pottstown, PA

**Friday, April 2** 7:00 P.M. **Good Friday Service** at Grace Covenant Church

**Sunday, April 4** 10:30 AM **Easter Sunday Worship Service** at Grace Covenant Church

**Friday, April 23** 7:00 P.M. **Sanctity of Life Concert** presented by Genesis Women’s Clinic at Berean Bible Church

Meet Tim & Holly  
Howden



**Disciple Makers**

Helping Fulfill the Great Commission

Tim and Holly Howden went to Kutztown University and were involved in DiscipleMakers as students, where the Lord dramatically deepened their faith and excitement for making disciples. Upon graduating in 2017, they were eager to use their gifts and education in video and graphic design to further Christ’s Kingdom specifically through college students. Now they are raising support to serve as missionaries with Disciple-Makers in their Media Department within the headquarters, located in State College, PA.”

## Prayer/Praise. . . . .March 14, 2021

- Please continue to pray for Koreen Mace's brother-in-law, Jim, that God will speak to his heart and for salvation and healing for Jim.
- Pray for Diane Ziegler, friend of Donna Jenkins, who had her second breast cancer surgery. Pray for healing for Diane and wisdom for her doctors.
- Pray for Ashley, the niece of Lisa Frame's friend, Denise. Ashley was diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer. Pray for wisdom for her treatment team, healing for Ashley, and God's strength and peace for Ashley and her family.
- Please continue to pray for Paul Maloney, brother of Barb Schultz, who is a resident at Pennsburg Manor. Please send cards of encouragement to Paul at: Pennsburg Manor, 530 Macoby Street, Pennsburg, PA 18173.
- Pray for Jill Aument's sister, Gail, who had a procedure for back pain. Pray that it gives her relief.
- Pray for Kaci Yensan as she has joined Tyler in North Carolina. Pray that their life together will glorify the Lord.
- Please continue to pray for Jenn, sister of Rick Hunter. She has a long road ahead due to her accident. Pray for God's healing for Jenn.
- Pray for Donna Plowfield's son-in-law, David, who is seeking employment in physical therapy in this area.
- Pray for the family of Rhonda Clark. Her aunt passed away from cancer, and her father is having a biopsy at the end of March to check for kidney cancer.
- Pray for Justine Schumaker, that she will have successful treatment for her colon cancer. Justine Schumaker's address is: 217 Cross Road, Gilbertsville, PA 19525.
- Pray for Koreen Mace's friend, Amanda. Pray that God places a Christian counselor in her life to help with emotional issues.
- Pray for continued healing for the father of Koreen Mace and Gwen Conrad. Pray for his strength for surgery on March 30.
- Pray for Dawn Fleetman, who is recovering from foot surgery. Pray that she will soon be able to return to work.
- Pray for Nic Collins, who will be going to Quito, Ecuador for a mission trip at the end of March. Pray for travel, safety, and no COVID. Pray for funds to be raised.
- Pray for Jeremiah Mace, who is in a 9-month internship program. Please pray for continued healing for Koreen's family.

## Message

### Farewell Discourse of Jesus Don't Be Troubled

*John 14:1-7 (ESV)*

*"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."*

#### What are we to do with despair?

Life in this fallen, sin-cursed world is packed with trouble and trials. Instead of pretending they do not exist, Scripture faces the hardships of life directly.

The Gospel of John and this passage in particular is **very practical**. **Very relevant** to one of the most common struggles we have, namely, the tendency to have a very godless heart-turmoil. This is a fretful failure to trust God fully for the problem we are facing. At first it may look like Jesus is addressing an anxiety that isn't the one you're dealing with. But hang on, because Jesus takes a surprising turn in this story.<sup>1</sup>

#### 1. We have Good Reason Not to Be Troubled.

Christians are realists. They are realists about all life's problems. And at the same time Christians are realists about the power of God and his promises. And this means that although there is cause to be troubled, nevertheless, there is even greater cause not to be.<sup>2</sup>

The disciples did not really doubt that God would take care of them in some far off, general sense. **But they did not understand how Jesus could go, how he could apparently be abandoning them.**

#### 4 Reasons to Not Be Troubled

**a. Don't be troubled, but trust me, because my Father has many rooms in his house and each of you will have one.**

*Verse 2: "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you . . ." (John 14:2-3).* Jesus assures his disciples that his departure is for the purpose of establishing for them permanent dwelling places in the very presence of God. That is the truth about his leaving. If believed, their faith would triumph over their doubts and their