

## CALMING TRUTHS FOR A TROUBLED HEART

July 13, 2025

**Get a Grip & Get a Life // Preparing for Departure // John 14:1-6**

### **CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships**

1. Is there anything noteworthy going on in your life since last week? Where have you seen God at work in your life or the lives of others?
2. If you could design your dream room in “your Father’s house” (John 14:2), what would be in it? (Think creatively—arcade games, hammocks, library, sweet tea fountain, etc.)
3. Have you ever had an out-of-town situation that went terribly wrong such that you just couldn’t wait to get home?

### **REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives**

4. Read John 14:1-6 [have someone read it out loud for group time]. What stood out to you in the sermon this week and what did God reveal to you in His Word, maybe for the first time?
5. Have someone read Romans 8:18 and 1 Peter 5:10. What evidence do you see that Paul and Peter were clinging to the same calming truths Jesus gave to His disciples in this passage?
6. How does the power and faithfulness of Jesus that we encounter in God’s word and in our own experience equip us to trust Him even when we can’t see Him at other times of trouble?
7. John 14:2 teaches us that if you are a child of God, Jesus has gone to prepare a place for you. How does this truth impact your perspective when troubles come into your own heart?
8. What are some perspectives you’ve heard from other individuals that might be outrageous or unbiblical based on what this passage teaches us – that Jesus will be the highlight of heaven (14:3)?
9. If your love for Jesus now shapes your excitement for heaven, what are some ways you can grow deeper in your love for Him as you look ahead to eternity?
10. How does knowing that Jesus is the only way to come to the Father (and His house in heaven) as we find in John 14:6 calm our troubled hearts? And how should that truth impact our urgency to share the gospel with others?

### **PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)**

11. As you heard this message, was there anything in particular that came to mind about what might be stirring your own heart causing trouble within? How can we as a group encourage you or pray for you in this matter?

After considering any prayer requests your fellow group members might have, ask someone in your group to pray. Aim to pray specifically for one another to experience peace and steadiness through trust in Jesus, especially during our troubling and uncertain circumstances.



## Announcements

**The end of our second trimester of Life Groups is near.** Just 2 weeks remain after this gathering! The final week for this trimester will be July 28 to August 3. Our third trimester is scheduled to begin on September 8, so we'll be taking a break for most of August. Group leaders and hosts: are there any changes that are needed for your group for the coming trimester (meeting date/time/location, leaders, etc.)? If so, let's get those details ironed out now and ask our group members to start considering their plans for the coming trimester. **WE TRULY NEED MORE GROUPS WITH FAITHFUL LEADERS AND HOSTS!** Prayerfully consider if the Lord might be leading you to get involved, and if so, reach out to us by emailing [groups@nvf.life](mailto:groups@nvf.life) or calling the church office. Remember that our groups are meant to be Great Commission minded with a heartbeat for producing new groups and multiplying God's glory on the earth. We have some strategies to keep the DNA of your group going while making space for new folks, so reach out to know more.

Mark your calendars for a fun church-wide social we're calling **Sundaes on Sunday**. This event will be on Sunday, July 27, from 6 to 8pm. This event is for EVERYONE in the church. And we are inviting families of our children from Bible Camp to come, as well. We'll have ice cream and toppings for sundaes for everyone. And we'll have bounce houses, popcorn, cotton candy, and DJed music also. We have two aims: we want to give individuals in the church a chance to connect with one another in fellowship, and we want to give our people a chance to mingle with the families of children from Bible camp as a way of getting to know them. While we should have enough ice cream for everyone, if you have a favorite homemade ice cream recipe and would like to bring a freezer of your own to share with others, we would encourage you to do so. Let's sugar up together in sweet fellowship!

We have a **Blood Drive** in the church fellowship hall coming up next Monday, July 21 from 3-7:30pm. Sign up to give: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?order=DATE&range=10&zipSponsor=27025>

## Individual Options for Going Deeper

Are you interested in thinking and learning more about heaven? Surely we all are. Pastor Jeremy read an excerpt from Randy Alcorn's book, *Heaven*. Alcorn also runs a blog with many articles on this topic that is insightful. Check it out here, and find the topics that most interest you:

<https://www.epm.org/browse/heaven/?order=-date&blog=true>