Friendship with God

SERMON GUIDE THE WAY TO FRIENDSHIP WITH	SERMON NOTES
GOD John 14:1-11	
Pastor Tim Porter	
August 10, 2025	
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OUR MISSION is to make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (Year 1, Week 33)

Prov. 15:1 (Godly speech)

A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

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THE WAY TO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

John 14:1-11

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The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

Scripture that stands out to you while you read

Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you

Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships

Prayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Setting The Table: Today's reading takes us into the upper room, just hours before Jesus' arrest. The disciples are anxious and confused. Jesus doesn't scold them—He comforts them. He speaks as a friend who knows their fears and offers them Himself. Think of a time when someone gave you just the right words in a hard moment. What did they say? As you read today, listen for the promises and invitations that Jesus gives to comfort his friends.

Read John 14:1-11

- **S** What do you love most about what you just read? What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O Let's reflect on a few phrases from verses 2-3:
 - "In my Father's house are many rooms..." What images, thoughts, feelings or experiences come to mind when you think about being in the "house" of a great person?
 - "I go to prepare a place for you..." How is Jesus going to prepare a place in the Father's house for his friends? How will he make a way for sinners to dwell with God?
 - "That where I am, you may be also..." What is the goal for Jesus? What are we learning about friendship with God?

Are there any specific promises in verses 1-4 that encourage you today? Why?

- Jesus makes some very exclusive and startling claims about himself in verses 5-11. How are these claims both challenging and comforting? Do they make you uneasy or fill you with hope? Why?
- A If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A Jesus is the way Home... the Way to the Father. How might you draw closer to him this week to deepen your friendship?
- **P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.