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John 14:22-29
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It happens probably three or four times in your life that somebody new moves into your house and lives with you. When you get married, your new spouse, moves into your house and lives with you. When you have a baby, the new baby moves into your house and lives with you. When your parents get a little older and they are no longer able to live on their own, sometimes they move into your house and live with you. Today, Jesus says that he and the Father will move into your house and live with you. Verse 23 says, **“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*” (John 14:23).**

Jesus says that he and his Father want to move into your house and live with you. And when Jesus moves into your house, two things happen. I. You grow in knowledge and II. you grow in obedience.

First, you grow in knowledge. Jesus said this the night before he died. He was giving his disciples a farewell address. But it seems like a lot of what Jesus said that night went right over the disciples' head. The disciples' keep interrupting Jesus and asking him questions because they don't understand what he is saying. Like in verse 22, **“Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”** Judas didn't understand what Jesus had been saying. Does that ever happen to you? Does the Bible ever go straight over your head? That's OK! At first what Jesus said went straight over the disciples' head too!

But Jesus promised the disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit to remind them of what he said. Verse 26, **“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” (14:26).** The Spirit came in a special way to the disciples so that they could write the Bible. That's why we say that the Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came to the disciples and reminded them of what Jesus said so that they could write down what he said without any errors. Every word of the Bible is God's Word.

And the Spirit also comes to us to help us more and more understand what the Bible says. But in order for that to happen, we need to be reading the Bible. Bring Jesus into your living room by reading a little section of the Bible with your family for a home devotion. Make use of the Bible studies here at St. John's so you can understand the Bible more and more.

And you might, say, “Well pastor, why would I want to understand the Bible more and more.” Because the more you understand the Bible, the more you will have peace. Jesus says, **“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”**

Of course it's Mothers' Day. Kid's here's one thing you can give your moms for mother's day this year: some peace and quiet. I remember when my siblings and I were really rowdy and really in my mom's hair she would say, “I just want some peace and quiet.” The more you understand the Bible, the more you'll have peace and quiet. All kinds of distressing things can be happening around you, but Jesus gives you peace and quiet.

When Jesus moves into your house you grow in knowledge and you also grow in obedience.

Jesus says, **“Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching” (John 14:23)**. Jesus is the ultimate example of obedience. He obeyed his Father’s will perfectly. He says later, **“The Father is greater than I” (John 14:28)**. You might say, “Wait a minute. I thought Jesus was God, how can he say that Father is greater?” Well Jesus is God and as God he is equal with the Father. But remember that he is also a human. And as to his human nature the Father is greater than Jesus and as a human Jesus perfectly obeyed his Father. Jesus obeyed the Father by never committing a sin. And the Bible says that through faith, is perfect obedience counts for us. Jesus obeyed the Father by dying on the cross and through faith in his blood all our sins are washed away. Jesus obeyed his Father because he loved his Father.

And if we love Jesus, then we will obey his teaching. What does it mean to obey Jesus’ teaching? Well, going back to Mother’s Day again, children, obey Jesus by obeying your mom and dad. Do whatever they tell you. And tell your mom and dad that you love them. That’s what it means for you to obey Jesus.

Adults, what does it mean for us to obey Jesus? It means that as Jesus has forgiven us that we genuinely forgive one another. It means that as Jesus treats us with plenty of grace, that we treat one another with plenty of grace.

When someone new moves into your house your life changes doesn’t it? The way you think changes. When you bring a new baby home, your life completely changes. You spend all your time thinking about the baby. What happens when Jesus moves into your home? You grow in knowledge and you grow in obedience.

Amen.