



## 9: IMPARTATION – Jesus provided for His disciples

The theme this week is **IMPARTATION**, some of the areas where Jesus specifically provided for the disciples in order to support and encourage them. Jesus is still in the business of providing in a similar way for his disciples today.

As this is the **last study in the series** – take the opportunity to share some of the specific areas that have challenged you in the whole area of personal discipleship and the call to radical following.

Alan spoke about ‘messy spirituality’ as a good phrase to describe what Jesus was involved in with the Twelve whom he called and ultimately sent out. Jesus only had one plan – there was no plan B.

The whole idea of impartation is that Jesus gave away what was given to him by the Father. My joy – Jn 15.11; My peace – Jn 14.27; My life – Jn 10.7; My love – Jn 15.9 and much more!

### 1. IMPARTATION – Jesus provided friendship.

There was a unique relational bond established between Jesus and his disciples. Jesus speaks about friendship in John 15.15, ‘I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, **I have called you friends**, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.’

The friendship bond is a heart issue that was built upon as Jesus spent time with the disciples. Jesus shared his heart, his plans, his love and life in the growing bond of spiritual identity.

- What do you sense Jesus is saying in this verse? Bear in mind the context is of the vineyard.
- In what way does friendship express the relationship that we are to enjoy with Jesus?

The whole of our service is to flow out of the relational life of being in Christ through abiding in the vine. Jn 15.14 *You are my friends if you do what I command.*

### 2. IMPARTATION – Jesus provided prayer.

The characteristic life of prayer was expressed by Jesus. When Jesus was sharing with the disciples in the Upper Room, they were arguing among themselves as to who was the greatest. In Luke 22.31 Jesus speaks to Simon Peter: *Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.*

- In what way was Jesus’ prayer answered for Peter?
- How do we find encouragement in the knowledge that Jesus prays for us?
- Take Hebrews 7.25 ‘he always lives to intercede for them.’ This is the continuation of Jesus’ earthly ministry.

**John 17.6-19** offers us a number of insights...here are just three.

- Jesus prays for their unity, v.11.
- Jesus prays that they would be kept from the evil one, v.15.
- Jesus prays that they would be sanctified by the truth, v.17.

### 3. IMPARTATION – Jesus provided Holy Spirit.

John 15.26 *When the counsellor comes, whom I will send...*

John offers us many verses regarding the Holy Spirit – Jn 14.16; Jn 16.7; Jn 20.21-22

- The Spirit imparts assurance – Romans 8.16
- The Spirit moves in sanctifying power – Galatians 5.16-17; 22-23
- The Spirit equips us with grace gifts - 1 Cor 1.7; 1 Cor 12.4-7

**Acts 1:8** *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

- In what way does friendship express the relationship that we are to enjoy with Jesus?

The whole of our service is to flow out of the relational life of being in Christ through abiding in the vine. Jn 15.14 *You are my friends if you do what I command.*