**John 14:1-11**

**Context:**

* This was the night before Jesus’ crucifixion, and he was spending the time with his disciples.
* Jesus was preparing his disciples for his departure.
* Simon Peter asked Jesus, where is Jesus going, and wherever Jesus goes, he would follow (not knowing he would deny Jesus).
* And Jesus replied to Peter saying, he would Deny Jesus 3 times before the rooter crows.

**1-3**

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. **2**My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? **3**And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”

1-3\* This is such a beautiful picture for me about the Bridge groom, and the bride.

Jesus was speaking to them in a form that they could relate too. In the form of a Jewish wedding Ceremony.

**Shiddukhin** – *first step to the marriage process, where the Father of the Groom would select a bride for his Son.* The Father has chosen us as the bride for his Son.

* **Gen 24:1-4.** Abraham charged his servant to find a wife for his son, Isaac from his home country.
* **Matt 22: 8-14**. The King commanded his servants to go out and gather everyone to the wedding, good and bad.
* **Rom 11**. Paul speaking on how we (Gentiles) were grafted into the Vine (Jesus).

**Ketubah** – *The marriage contract*.

* He Promises to Love us and take care of us and give Himself for us.
* We have been commanded to love him and love his people and glorify God in our bodies.
  + - John13:34
    - Mark12:30-34

**The Mohar** – Bridal payment, the Gift the Groom would agree to pay for His bride, to change her status and sets her free from her parents’ household.

* **Cor 6:19-20.** We have been bought with a price.
* **1 Pet 1:18-19.** We Have not been bought with perishable things such as gold or silver but by the precious blood of the Lamb without blemish or spot.

**The Mikveh** – Ritual immersion, to prepare for betrothal it was common for the bride and groom to separately take a ritual immersion and was symbolic of spiritual cleansing.

* Matt 3-17. Jesus was baptised in the beginning of His ministry.
* We are also instructed to be baptized.

After the were betrothed, **Matan** followed:

**Matan**, is the bridal gift – Holy Spirit

* Following this betrothal ceremony, the groom would return to his home to fulfil his obligations during the betrothal. But just prior to leaving he would give his wife to be a Matan - or bridal gift, a pledge of his love for her.
* **John 14: 26**. Jesus promises the Holy Spirit - He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

**The Couple's Responsibilities During the Betrothal**

the groom's responsibility was to focus on preparing a new dwelling place for his bride and family:

* In Biblical times this was most often done not by building a new home - but by simply adding additional rooms to the family's existing home.
* The Rabbi's determined that the place to which the bride was to be taken must be better than the place she had lived before.
* It was not the groom's duty to determine when the place he was preparing for the bride was ready - his father would make that determination and give the go ahead to receive his bride.
  + **Matt 24:36** “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.”

The bride also was to keep herself busy in preparation for the wedding day - specifically wedding garments were to be sewn and prepared.

**Jesus the Way to the Father**

**4 “**You know the way to the place where I am going.”

* Because he is the Way.
* And they knew Him.

**5**Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

**6**Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**The way** – **Act 4:12.** “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

* Everyone is welcome!
  + **Matt 22: 8-9. 8**“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. **9**So go to the street corners and **invite to the banquet anyone you find.**”
* The only requirement was to wear the wedding garments (a metaphor for Jesus/Holy Spirit/His Blood).
* Again, the Good news is that is the only requirement!! He just wants our hearts.
* Because he is a jealous God for us, like I am a jealous husband for my wife’s love.
* I will never share Edwaney with any other, How can we expect that from Jesus if we are his chosen bride?

**The truth** – **John 1:17.** “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

* This is not a contrast that the Law given to Moses was bad and Jesus is good, but rather:
  + In the Law God revealed His character and righteous requirements to Israel
  + But Jesus marked the final, definitive revelation of God’s grace and truth. That he was Superior to Abraham, Jacob, and Moses.

**Where can we Find this truth?** Let’s backtrack to the very first versus on John.

* “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2**He was in the beginning with God. **3**All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. **4**In him was life, and the life was the light of men.”
* **John 1:14.** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

We are confronted daily with what is truth, relative truth, my truth, your truth?

* We need to ask our self:
  + Do we believe what the Bible says.
  + Do we measure new information against the Bible.
  + And will the Bible remain our standard to decern truth from lie?

**The Life** – **John 11:25-26.** Jesus said to Martha, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, **26**and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

Death where is your sting?

**7** “If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him.”

**8**Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

**9**Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? **10**Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. **11**Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.

For me personally, I can’t explain everything that I read in the Bible, especially the Old testament.

And I have been asked many times, why could God do this, and that?

But when I read This scripture, and Jesus says:

* you know the Father because you know me.
* I do not do anything except what my Father tells me to do.

Then when I look at the Love Jesus had throughout his time on earth, the compaction he showed to all, the blood he shed for me.

* He did not do that on his own Authority, but his Father.

That is Heart of God the Father towards us.

And yes I still can’t explain those thing I read, but we only see in part, one day we will see in full.

**1 Cor13:12**. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.