

John 13-17: The Upper Room Discourse

Cross Training 2006

Pre-Conference Preparation

WI/UP InterVarsity Cross Training, November 3-5, 2006

JOHN 13-17: The Upper Room Discourse

Within hours of this final meal with His disciples, Jesus was hanging on a cross; in less than twenty-four hours he was dead and buried. As we look carefully at this passage, we will see more clearly into the heart of our Lord as He communicates His great love for us and as He makes provisions through the Holy Spirit who empowers us to do even greater things upon Jesus' departure to His Father.

Greetings! Thanks for choosing to be part of this intense but great training opportunity! I look forward to how God will work to encourage and equip us – staff and students – as we prepare for and participate in the weekend. Completing the following assignment will *significantly* enhance our experience in this track, so please make time to work on it. NOTE: Plan to spend several hours on it (plan on spreading it out over a couple days.) I highly recommend that you begin it no later than October 27. Please bring the completed assignment with you.

If you have any questions, hopes, or comments about the track, please contact me, the track director, Kori Cherney at kori_cherney@ivstaff.org or 608.348.5522.

Please pray that God will challenge, equip, and delight us in the track, and beyond.

Pre-Course

Read through the entire Gospel of John to help us place our particular passage in its context. If you are able, read it in one sitting.

As you read through the gospel this time, write down a few of the things that you find compelling about Jesus.

What impresses you about His relationship with His disciples?

How would you summarize Jesus' mission, His purpose, based on this gospel?

Re-read chapters 13-17, imagining that you are one of the disciples participating in this time with Jesus.

Draw a sketch that represents what you imagine this scene to look like at any point during the evening (make sure you draw yourself into the scene!)

What are the thoughts and questions and feelings that go through your mind and heart during this meal with Jesus? What confuses/comforts/angers/frightens/etc. you? What makes sense/doesn't make sense?