

## Spectrum from Physical to Spiritual

- ❖ **Read John 14.19-21**
- ❖ The Bible is a "*spiritual*" document / It introduces us to another realm of existence
  - Though spiritual, it is surprisingly anchored in this physical world
    - The vast majority of the Bible can be read and understood by anyone
    - Jesus' stories connected with people because they were anchored in this world
    - Yet parts of the Bible are purely spiritual, entirely anchored in the spiritual realm
  - What we've just read (**vss 19-21**) is one such part of the Bible
    - We're entering a large section of John that is entirely and utterly spiritual
    - The anchor points to this world / this reality ~ aren't found in the coming texts
- ❖ These are Jesus' final words / They will be largely spiritual / He's stretching them
  - His disciples weren't expecting this and didn't prefer it
  - We may find ourselves identifying with them

## Judas' Response

- ❖ **Read v22** / Judas' inquiry may be purely logical or technical / solving the puzzle
  - But it could also be read somewhat accusingly / "**Why would you want this?**"
  - Judas' question must be seen as anchored in this physical realm / this world
- ❖ Jesus' answer is primarily anchored in the spiritual real / spiritual reality
  - The disciples were being forced to make a switch in their thinking
  - Jesus' stories would no longer begin in this world and connect them to the next
    - They'd begin in the next world and connect back to this one
- ❖ Were they ready for this? / Are all of us ready for this?

## Jesus' Words

- ❖ **v19** ~ "**the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me.**" / spiritual eyes needed
- ❖ **v19** ~ "**Because I live, you will live also.**" / They will only understand after He's crucified
- ❖ **v20, 23** ~ The intimacy between Father and Son will be true of us also
- ❖ **v21, 23, 24** ~ Obedience is a reflection, an outcome, of our love for God

## "How can This Possibly be Disappointing to Us?"

- ❖ I believe these words were somewhat disappointing to Judas (*not Iscariot*)
  - Not the promise of intimacy but the exclusivity of this manifestation of Jesus
  - "**Why did they want Jesus to manifest Himself?**" / To show them up / shut them up
- ❖ But "**Why is it that Jesus manifests Himself to us? What is His purpose?**"
  - Jesus reveals Himself to us so that we might know and experience love more deeply
  - **Read v23** / The beachhead the Spirit establishes in our hearts is home to the Trinity

Jesus immersed His disciples in spiritual reality and spiritual reasoning that last night  
We also must be immersed in the spiritual realm / We must accustom ourselves to it  
We celebrate the Lord's Supper with physical elements – but seek spiritual nourishment