

Communion Meditation – Final Admonitions

John 16.16-24

“Merit of the Son”

December 6th, 2015

Imminent Departure & Return of Jesus

- **v16a** ~ “.. a little while and you will not see Me ..”
- **v16b** ~ “.. again a little while, and you will see Me ..”
- Note Jesus speaks of them seeing or not seeing Him
- Disciples are frustrated / Yet to a man reluctant to ask Jesus the meaning
- **v19** ~ “.. Jesus knew that they desired to ask Him ..”

Imminent Reactions to Crucifixion of Jesus

- **v20a** ~ “.. you will weep and lament ..”
- **v20b** ~ “.. but the world will rejoice ..”
- **v20c** ~ “.. you will be sorrowful, but it will turn to joy ..”
- **v21** ~ Analogy of woman giving birth
 - Imagine before and after pics of mother (*just minutes apart*)
 - Anxiety / Pain → Joy / Relief

Ask the Father in My Name

- **v22** ~ Earlier they would see Jesus but now He says, “I will see you”
 - Jesus is pointing to a time beyond His ascension
 - He’s pointing to a joy the Holy Spirit will generate from within them
- **v23** ~ All future requests are to be made of “the Father in My name”
- **v24** ~ Twice He affirms their requests will be answered
 - “He will give you” and “Ask, and you will receive”

They were reluctant to address their questions to Jesus

Instead, they asked questions of one another . . .

Why would they be reluctant to ask Jesus directly?

1) They should already know, 2) They are tired of puzzling responses

“Better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to open your mouth and remove all doubt.”

We mustn’t be afraid to seek wisdom and direction directly from God

Earthly counselors are helpful, but God is the source of all wisdom

We may seek earthly counselors because we lack a relationship with God

We may ask questions of God – but not be open spiritually to “hear” answers