



That You May Believe: Assurance Through Turmoil

John Bernard-Carlin – 22 March 2026 (watch talk [here](#))

Continuing our sermon series on the Book of John, we looked together at John 14 where Jesus, in the midst of the journey towards the cross, bookends his discourse with the same phrase '*do not let your hearts be troubled*' (v1 & 27). In this passage, Jesus encourages his disciples, and us, in the assurance we have through him. Because of this, as we encounter uncertainty in and around us, we can live with certainty and assurance of:

- Our destination (John 14:1-9)
- God's outworking (John 14:9-14)
- God's presence (John 14:15-27)

Reflect and discuss

Leaders note: Depending on the size of your group, you may like to divide into three groups to look at each of these aspects from the passage, then draw back together to share your reflections with the whole group.

- 1. Assurance of destination** - Read John 14:1-9. Although we cannot know the future and living with daily uncertainty about our circumstances, we can be certain of our future destiny through Jesus who is '*the way, the truth and the life*' (v6).
 - How does this assurance of our destination help us to live with assurance in our everyday lives, no matter our circumstances?
- 2. Assurance of outworking** - Read John 14:9-14. Here we are encouraged that all who believe in Jesus will do what he did and even greater things! If we have assurance in Jesus we can have assurance in what he asks us to do and play our part in continuing the works of Jesus (v12-14).
 - What encouragements do you draw from this passage?
 - How is Jesus inviting you to respond?
- 3. Assurance of presence** - Read John 14:15-27. Prior to Jesus' ministry, the Jewish people's understanding of God's presence was limited to a physical space, first the tabernacle and then the temple. Now God's dwelling place, his presence is going to be within each of us, as we choose to follow Him.
 - What encouragements do you draw from this passage?

Share & Pray

John encouraged us that God provides peace for us in the 'hospital room' of our own lives. He wants us to be assured by the presence of his peace that we might live with assurance and certainty in the midst of uncertainty. In smaller groups, share honestly where you need God's assurance, certainty or simply the peace of his presence in your life today, and pray for one another.

Activate

Consider what it would mean for you to do the works of Jesus this week. What do you sense is his invitation to you? Pray for opportunities this week & share any stories next time you meet.