

June 5–11
John 14–17
“Continue Ye in My Love”



Instructions to His Disciples

John 13:33-35

If all of Jesus' disciples followed His example of love, what impact do you think it would have on the world accepting restoration of the gospel?

Jeffrey R. Holland

“As He prepared to leave His still-innocent and somewhat-confused little band of followers, He did not list a dozen administrative steps they had to take or hand them a fistful of reports to be filled out in triplicate. No, He summarized their task in one fundamental commandment: ‘Love one another; as I have loved you. ... By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.’” (CR, April 2018)

Joseph B. Wirthlin

“One underlying principle runs throughout the Savior’s life, mission, and teachings: We are to love one another....

“Imagine for a moment the result if everyone were to love one another as Jesus loves his disciples. We would have no bickering, quarreling, strife, or contention in our homes. We would not offend or insult one another either verbally or in any other way. We would not have unnecessary litigation over small matters. War would be impossible, especially war waged in the name of religion.” (CR, Oct. 1993)

Instructions to His Disciples

John 15:1-8

What must a branch (followers of Christ) do to be able to bear fruit?

How do we abide in Christ?

Why do you think it is that bearing fruit and being purged go hand in hand?

What happens to the branch that does not bear good fruit?

Heber C. Kimball

“We never can enjoy the lifegiving influences of the Spirit of God except we live and practice our religion, always abiding in the vine, for as the branch cannot bring forth or produce except it remain connected with the tree, so we cannot increase in light and knowledge unless we keep alive in Christ.” (JD, 9:335)

Robert L. Millet

“To abide in Christ is to trust in him, rely on him, be patient with him and his plan for us, yield ourselves to his mercies, surrender to him, and thereby draw upon his life and his strength....

“When that Spirit dwells in us, we begin to bear the fruit of the Spirit.... ‘But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, [and] temperance’ (Galatians 5:19, 22-25).”
(Alive in Christ: The Miracle of Spiritual Rebirth, pg. 59)

Harold B. Lee

"Rarely, if ever, is there a truly great soul except he has been tried and tested through tears, and adversity—seemingly pruned by the hand of a master gardener. By applying the knife and the pruning hook the branch is shaped and fashioned to God's omnipotent design, in order that its full fruitage may be realized." (The Teachings of Harold B. Lee, pg. 209)

Bernard P. Brockbank

“The nonproducing branches on the vine, some lost in the darkness and sin of the world, some weak and sick from the blight of evil, some branches fluttering in the winds of worldly pleasure... will be pruned from the vine. They will be cut away from their source of divine nourishment.” (CR, Oct. 1973)

Instructions to His Disciples

John 15:9-12

What can Jesus' disciples do that He promises will bring them a fullness of joy?

Ronald T. Halverson

"Because of His great love for us, a divine love, He wants us to experience the kind of joy that He, Himself, experiences.... He will bless us with a genuine peace—mentally, emotionally, physically, spiritually, economically—'not [a peace] as the world giveth, (John 14:27), but a 'peace... which passeth all understanding' (Philip. 4:7).

"As one complies with the will of our Father in Heaven, there will come spiritual, intellectual, and emotional growth and a reassurance through the Holy Spirit of truth. That reassurance and joy can grow to a perfect knowledge." (CR, April 2015)

Instructions to His Disciples

John 15:18-21

Why does following Jesus put His disciples at odds with the world?

George Q. Cannon

“If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world.....

“If we were like the world, the world would love us; but because God has chosen us out of the world, therefore the world hates us; and we shall be hated as long as we preserve these virtues and contend for them.”

(Gospel Truth: Discourses and Writings of President George Q. Cannon, selected, arranged, and edited by Jerreld L. Newquist, pg. 307)

Thomas S. Monson

“We must be vigilant in a world which has moved so far from that which is spiritual. It is essential that we reject anything that does not conform to our standards, refusing in the process to surrender that which we desire most: eternal life in the kingdom of God.” (CR, Oct. 2011)

George Q. Cannon

“If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world..”

Jesus Promises Another Comforter

John 14:15-17,26

Jesus promises them 'another Comforter'. Who is he referring to?

Bruce R. McConkie

“Now, when Christ was here in his ministry, he told his Apostles that when he went away, he would send them another Comforter that is a Comforter other than he, himself, for he was a comfort unto them....

“But the thing that we are concerned with here in mortality, is to have the Holy Ghost reveal to us the things of God, the knowledge that God is our Father, that Jesus Christ is his Son, literally born of him in the flesh, and that the kingdom of God has been set up on earth again for the last time.” (CR, April 1953)

George Q. Cannon

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Jesus Promises Another Comforter

John 16:7-14

What blessings are promised to those who receive the companionship of the Holy Ghost?

How do you think the Holy Ghost glorifies Jesus?

Timothy J. Dyches

“Thereafter, when your desires and actions are centered on the covenant path, the Holy Ghost, as a light within you, will reveal and testify of truth, warn of danger, comfort and cleanse, and provide peace to your soul.

“Because ‘light cleaveth unto light,’ the constant companionship of the Holy Ghost will lead you to make choices that will tend to keep you in the light; conversely, choices made without the Holy Ghost’s influence will tend to lead you into shadows and darkness.” (CR, April 2021)

George Q. Cannon

“If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world.”

Marion G. Romney

“The Holy Ghost is the great witness of, the messenger for, and testifier of the Father and the Son. The Savior [spoke] of Him as the ‘Spirit of truth.’

“By the witness and power of the Holy Ghost we receive personal testimonies of the truths of the gospel, including knowledge of God the Father and His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer.” (CR, April 1977)

George O. Cannon

“If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world.”

The Second Comforter

John 14:18-23

What do you think Jesus meant when He said He would manifest Himself and make His abode with those who love Him?

Joseph Smith

"After a person has faith in Christ, repents of his sins, and is baptized for the remission of his sins and receives the Holy Ghost... then let him continue to humble himself before God, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and living by every word of God, and the Lord will soon say unto him, Son, thou shalt be exalted. When the Lord has thoroughly proved him, and finds that the man is determined to serve Him at all hazards, then the man will find his calling and his election made sure, then it will be his privilege to receive the other Comforter, which the Lord hath promised the Saints, as is recorded in the testimony of St. John, in the 14th chapter....

George Q. Cannon

"If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world.."

"Now what is this other Comforter? It is no more nor less than the Lord Jesus Christ Himself; ...when any man obtains this last Comforter, he will have the personage of Jesus Christ to attend him, or appear unto him from time to time... and the Lord will teach him face to face." (TPJS, pg. 150-1)

Spencer W. Kimball

“Of all treasures of knowledge, the most vital is the knowledge of God: his existence, powers, love, and promises.

“The Christ said: ‘He... that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself unto him.’

“He further said: ‘If a man love me... we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.’

George Q. Cannon

If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world..

“And the Prophet Joseph Smith explained: ‘And this means that the coming of the Father and the Son to a person is a reality—a personal appearance—and not merely dwelling in his heart’ (D&C 130:3).” (CR, Oct. 1968)

Ye Are My Friends

John 15:14-17

Why had the apostles received the status of being Jesus' friend?

How do we become Jesus' friend?

What will be the natural byproduct of those who become His friends?

Stephen L Richards

“The Lord used the term friends most impressively...

“The essence of the friendship here set forth lies in belief and acceptance of the divinity of the Master. It is inconceivable that he should extend the friendship he so beautifully described to any others than those who were believers. George O. Cannon **We know of his compassion, his mercy,** and concern for all our Father's children, but it should never be forgotten that he set forth in unequivocal language the eligibility of those admitted to the circle of his friendship.” (CR, April 1955)

Neal A. Maxwell

“He said to His disciples in the meridian of time that they were no longer servants, but friends: ‘Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.’

“... [This] describes the condition necessary for us to achieve in order to prove our friendship for Him: we must keep His commandments and strive to become like Him. His truest friends are those who give such evidence of being ‘valiant in the testimony of Jesus’ and who thereby overcome themselves and the world (DC 79:79; 121:29).”

“...His is a beckoning friendship, a designation that is actually an invitation, for He declared: ‘I will call you friends, for ye are my friends, and ye shall have an inheritance with me’ (DC 93:45).” (Even As I Am, pg. 41)

Intercessory Prayer

John 17:1-5

What insight do we receive about the relationship and work of Jesus and the Father?

How does Jesus define eternal life?

To whom will Christ give eternal life?

N. Eldon Tanner

“In these words we find some of the greatest truths that have ever been uttered for the benefit and blessing of mankind. We learn that Jesus lived with his Father before the world was created; that he had been given a special work to do and was sent by his Father to the earth to perform that work; that there had been revealed to him the events which would transpire concerning his crucifixion and death and resurrection;... and it has been made abundantly clear that the Father and the Son, though separate beings, are one in purpose as he prayed his apostles might be.” (CR, April 1978)

George Q. Cannon

“If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world..”

Dallin H. Oaks

“In contrast to the belief that God is an incomprehensible and unknowable mystery is the truth that the nature of God and our relationship to Him is knowable and is the key to everything else in our doctrine....

“The effort to know God and His work began before mortality and will not be concluded here. The Prophet Joseph Smith taught, George Q. Cannon “If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world..” It will be a great while after you have passed through the veil before you will have learned ... all the principles of exaltation’ (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith, pg. 268). We build on the knowledge we acquired in the premortal spirit world.” (CR, April 2017)

3 Nephi 15:24

... ye are my sheep, and ye are numbered among those whom the Father hath given me.

D&C 50:41

Fear not, little children, George Q. Cannon for you are mine, and I have overcome the world, and you are of them that my Father hath given me. *If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world..

Intercessory Prayer

John 17:9,14-19

Rather than being taken out of the world, how does Jesus ask the Father to bless His disciples?

According to this passage, how does one become sanctified?

Russell M. Nelson

“God wants us to work together and help each other.... That is why He asks us to live in the world but not be of the world.... We extend our reach and our influence for good by working together. God’s plan of happiness would be frustrated if His children remained isolated one from another.” (CR, April 2021)

George Q. Cannon

“If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world..”

James E. Faust

"The Savior gives us a profound key by which we can cope with and even surmount the debilitating forces of the world. Said the Savior, 'I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil.' This grand key then is that, regardless of the saturation of wickedness around us, we must stay free from the evil of the world. The Savior's prayer both commands us to avoid evil and proffers divine help to do so. Through this effort we become one with our Lord." (CR, Oct. 1996)

George Q. Cannon

"If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world."

Vaughn J. Featherstone

"Sanctification means to be made pure and spotless and holy. Truth can sanctify us if we abide in it. Truth purges falsehoods, misconceptions, errors, lies, evil, lusting, and other perverse behaviors from our lives. Truth is greater than the sword. Jesus' prayer to His Father included the admission that 'thy word is truth.' All truth emanates from God. Truth is eternal and absolute, and it sanctifies those who receive it." (The Incomparable Christ: Our Master and Model, pg. 28)

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Charles W. Penrose

Christ taught his disciples... that when he went away the Comforter should come to reveal unto them the things of the Father and the Son, and to guide them unto all truth; for it is only by receiving truth and living it that people can be saved and exalted. ‘Sanctify them through thy truth,’ George Q. Cannon prayed the Savior, ‘thy word is truth.’ If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world. The Holy Ghost, the Comforter, was to come, therefore, to make plain the truth, and to reveal things past, present, and to come.” (JD, 21:80)

Intercessory Prayer

John 17:20-26

How can we be one with the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Ghost?

Marion G. Romney

"The way to unity is for us to learn the will of the Lord and then to do it. Until this basic principle is understood and observed, there will be no unity and peace on the earth. The power of the Church for good in the world depends upon the extent to which we, the members thereof, observe this principle.

George Q. Cannon

"If we would be like the rest of the world, we would have no opposition from the world."

"The major reason for the world's troubles today is that men are not seeking to know the will of the Lord and then to do it. Rather do they seek to solve their problems in their own wisdom and in their own way."
(CR, April 1983)

Next Week:

June 12–18

Luke 22; John 18

“Not My Will, but Thine, Be Done”

