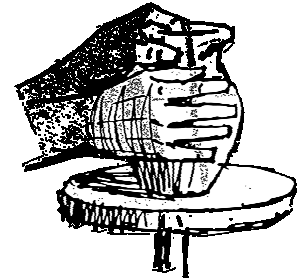


# His Workmanship: Westside

*"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works."*

—Ephesians 2:10



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Isaiah 64:8

## The Legacy of Jesus, John 13-16: Part 7, Promise of Peace, by John Mac-

In John 13-16 we find the legacy of Jesus Christ to His children, to His disciples, to His followers, to those of us who know and love Him. When we see that Jesus Christ, leaving this world, left us this legacy, it causes us to desire to understand and appropriate what is in this passage. These are the Christians' most treasured possessions. We have looked at the first six of these ten treasured possessions. The **first** promise He left us is the proof of His love, 13:1-12. He washed the disciples' feet as a sign/symbol of His love to them; He stooped to serve them in the most humble servitude that we could imagine. He said, "This is love, and that is how I want you to love each other, with that kind of lowly and willing service." He gave them that beautiful proof of love. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are My friends," 15:12. Jesus proved His love so that when He laid down His life, they would remember that He said it, and see that His death was, indeed, an act of love. By foot washing and by His statement that "No greater love could anybody have than to die for his friends," Jesus proved His love. He

loves us. The **second** legacy is the hope of heaven, 14. He said He would prepare a place in heaven for us. He stated His equality with God and promised the hope of heaven. The **third** promise is the guarantee of power: "Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father," Jn 14:11-12. After He ascended to the Father, the disciples would be able to do greater works than He did. "Greater works" means the extension of His power. Just because He was gone didn't make them impotent, but rather, they would be able to move out from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria and to the uttermost part of the earth and extend the power of God to places it had never touched. The miracles of the early church were carried to a far broader area, geographically, than ever was done in the life of Jesus. Since that time, Christians have carried salvation and transforming power around the globe. The **fourth** legacy is the assurance of supply: "Whatever

you shall ask in My name, that will I do. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it," Jn 14:13-14. Prayer is what connects us with Jesus, our Vine, our source of power and supply in heaven, Jn 15:1-8. Paul said, "My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches by Christ Jesus," Phil 4:19. "According to His riches," doesn't mean "from His riches," merely a little piece of what He has. He gives us "according to," in an equal measure to all His supply to meet the need. Thus, they would never lack for anything that was needful for them, but they would have absolute supply. And so do we. His supply is received by seeking the Father in prayer so that He may be glorified for having answered when He gives it. The **fifth** legacy is the promise of the Holy Spirit. He said, "I will pray the Father, and He will give you another paraklētōs, Comforter, supernatural Helper, Who will abide with you forever," 16:14. He is "the Spirit of truth," 17. The Holy Spirit came upon them to empower them, Ax 1:8; cf. Rm 15:19; 1 Cor 2:4, and to comfort them, Ax 9:31. He also comforts us and gives us power, Rm 15:13; Eph 3:16-19; 1 Pet 1:22. He dwells within us, 1 Cor 3:16;

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**“For He Himself is our peace, Who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity..., thus making peace, that He might reconcile them to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near,” —Eph 2:14-17**

6:17-20; 2 Cor 13:14; 1 Thes 4:8; 2 Tim 1:14; 1 Jn 3:24, The Holy Spirit comes to us to guarantee our inheritance, 2 Cor 5:5. We have been given the earnest of the Spirit, Eph 1:13-14. The Spirit has come to seal our salvation, Ax 2:38; 1 Cor 1:21-22; Eph 4:30. He does many things for us: He has given us the inspired word of God, Rm 1:4; 1 Cor 2:10-16; 12:3; 2 Cor 3:3-8; Eph 3:5; 6:17-18; 1 Tim 2:15; 1 Thes 1:5-6; Heb 2:3-4; 3:7; 6:4-5; 10:15; 1 Pet 1:11-12; 2 Pet 1:21; 1 Jn 4:1-13; 5:6-8; Rev 2:7, 11, 17, 29, etc.; Rev 14:13; 22:17, which assures us that we are God’s children, Rm 8:1-17; 9:1; Gal 4:6, 29, and thereby gives us peace/unity within the church, Eph 4:3-4; Phil 2:1; Jude 19, and sanctifies us, Rm 15:16; 1 Cor 6:11; 2 Thes 2:13; Tit 3:5; 1 Pet 1:2 (cf. Jn 17:17). The gift of the Holy Spirit is given to us by Christ to equip us for the ministry that He calls us to, Ax 5:32; 1 Cor 12. The Spirit appoints elders to oversee the church, Ax 20:28. He has poured out God’s love in our hearts, Rm 5:5; Col 1:8. He helps us when we pray, Rm 8:26-27; 15:30; Phil 1:19; Jude 20, and worship, Phil 3:3; Eph 5:17-21. He baptizes us into the one body of the Lord, 1 Cor 12:13. He causes us to grow, 2 Cor 3:17-18; Gal 3:2-5, 14; 5:16-25; Eph 2:22; 5:9; 1 Pet 4:14. He gives us life, 2 Cor 3:6-8; Gal 6:8; 1 Pet 3:18; 4:6. So, as Christians, we are rich, Rm 14:17; and we have hope, Gal 5:5; Rm 8:23-24.

**Sixth**, our Lord left us the possession of truth. Imagine how it would be to be without the Word of God. When Israel forgot the Word of God, they fell apart. Why? Because they had no guidelines. Nothing should happen in our lives without examining it through the grid of Scripture. For everything that

happens to us, we should think, “Now, how does this relate to Scripture? What is the Biblical pattern here? What is the Biblical standard here? What does Scripture say about this, so that I know how to behave?” The elders meet together to make decisions, and the things that they are concerned about in those decisions are the things of the Scripture. What does God have to say about this? What is His word to us about this? It’s a tremendous blessing to be able to have a resource like this, to be able to say, “This is what God wants, and if we obey, this is how we’ll be blessed.” When we open the Word of God, we have the marvelous truth that the world does not know. Jesus went on, “I have yet many things to say unto you,” Jn 16:12. That is very personal. He didn’t say, “There are more edicts coming from the throne”; He said, “I have much to say to you.” When we pick up the Scripture, we can get involved in a conversation with Jesus, because everything that is said in the New Testament comes from Him. He simply let the Holy Spirit be the agent of transportation to get it to us. The Holy Spirit acts like a supernatural mailman, but Jesus is the one who wrote the letter. “Nevertheless, when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth; for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatever He shall hear from Me, that shall He speak; and will show you things to come. He shall glorify Me, for He shall receive of Mine, and show it unto you,” 16:13-14. See? The Holy Spirit takes the letter of Christ to His own and delivers it. This New Testament is the word from the Son



through the Spirit to the believer. “I have many things to say to you, but you can’t handle them now, so I have to wait a little while, and I’ll have the Holy Spirit bring them to you later.” Can you imagine how excited they got when they heard that and later when the Spirit of God came on them and they began to write, or when they stood up to preach, and God flowed through them, and they spoke divine reality, divine truth, in fulfillment of Christ’s promise? If you can keep that little statement in mind, it’ll help you in your Bible study: “I have yet many things to say to you,” Jn 16:12. Prayer is talking to the Lord. Reading the Bible is the Lord talking to us. When we study the Word of God, we have the desire that God would reveal Himself, and so we always pray that God will help us as we study, don’t we? He somehow gets around our frailties and the confusion that may be in our minds at any given time. So our study is not academic. It is Jesus saying, “Hey, MacArthur, I have a few things to say to you today.” As long as I think of that personal intimacy, Bible study becomes communion rather than academics. Jesus is talking to me, and I always say to myself, “Lord, speak to me.” Do you say that? “Speak to me in Your Word.” The Holy Spirit will speak to us the words of Christ. That’s a great promise. “When the Comforter is come, Whom I will send you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, Who proceeds from the Father, He shall testify of Me. And you also shall bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning,” Jn 15:26-27. Those disciples were the men “who are going to write it all down. You’re the key. It’s going to come to you, and you’re going to write it down.” When we put all these scriptures together, we have the promise

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Psalm 133:1

**Let your faith be seen in 2014**  
“I rejoice to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.” —Colossians 2:5

**Legacy of Jesus**, from p. 2 of inspiration. Jesus left us the New Testament. This is His legacy. We open it, He speaks to us, and it is alive. “The Word of God is living, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart,” Heb 4:12. It is alive, it penetrates, and it divides. It has ability to give life. It has ability to transform life. It has ability to sustain life. It is living and powerful. So we see the Word of God as the living legacy of Jesus, Who has something to say to us. He gave us proof of love, hope of heaven, guarantee of power, assurance of supply, the gift of the Spirit, and possession of divine truth.

The seventh legacy is the promise of peace. That’s something the world would do well to find. “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you; not as the world gives give I unto you. Stop letting your heart be troubled. Stop letting it be afraid,” Jn 14:27. What was He talking about? There are two kinds of peace in scripture. There is peace with God, “We have peace with God,” Rm 5:1. That means the war is over. We are no longer God’s enemies. It’s like a treaty. “We were enemies and alienated from the life of God,” Eph 2:12; we were at war with God, but we received Jesus Christ, and we are now at peace with God. In fact, Paul calls it “The gospel of peace,” Eph 6:16. What is the good news of peace? That a man can stop his rebellion and

## Discipleship Here At Home

be at peace with God, that God will be on our side, that He will be for us. “If God be for us, who can be against us?” Rm 8:31. That’s the promise: when we become Christians and put our faith in Christ, God is on our team. That’s why Paul said, “When you’re fighting Satan, have your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.” Eph 6:15. The Roman soldiers wore hobnail boots that held the ground when they fought. Paul meant, “The way to keep a firm stand is to remember that you’re at peace with God, and He’s on your side.” When you are in a battle with Satan, all you have to say is, “Lord, God, sic them.” God is on my team. If God is for me, look out, sin; look out, Satan. Peace with God means God is on my team. What a confidence! The Quechua Indians in Ecuador have a word for peace that means “to sit down in your heart.” That means to be at rest, at home, and to sit down in your heart. If we get into a war, just sit down, let Him fight it; cf. 2 Chr 20:15-17; Ex 14:14; Deut 1:30. Isn’t that the peace Jesus was talking about here?

But He had a different kind of peace in mind when He said, “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give unto you, not as the world gives, give I unto you. Stop letting your heart be troubled,” 16:27. That’s not the objective peace of relationship to God, that’s the subjective peace of tranquility of mind. A tranquil heart truly comes out of the peace with God, doesn’t it? That’s why Jesus gave it to us. It’s because we have God on our side that we are at peace in our minds. When we are first of all at peace with God, then we are at peace within ourselves. Whenever we might start to worry, we can say, “What am I worried about? God’s on my team.” “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and

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### PRAY FOR healing, protection, help, and comfort here and away

- **Kaylee Chavez**—age 9 from CO Springs, brain tumor; to Children’s Hosp tomorrow; surgery Tues
  - **Tracy Corray**—testing points to allergies
  - **Frank Savarese**—to have surgery on salivary gland 1/18
  - **Melanie Baughn**’s mother—in OK has renal failure and cellulitis
  - **Jennifer Clayton**, former member—severe lyme disease; heart, spine, neuro issues;
  - **Chad Meyers** of Smoky Hill—acute renal failure
  - **Brittany Tope**’s mother—breast cancer in spine; pain in broken ribs which tumor has injured; grandmother—on dialysis
  - **Christine Adams**—recovering from ankle surgery, using walking cast; homebound till Dec 22; see **Judy Sartin** to co-ordinate meals
  - **Sharon Rupinen**, **Sandra Perry**’s sister—surgery
  - **Sylvia Chapman**, **Brett**’s grandmother—third stage pancreatic cancer; chemo
  - **Ed Fink**—prostate cancer; current treatment for brain tumors. Undergoing chemo this month
  - **Judy Sartin**’s son, **Dave Sartin**—colitis and severe depression; needs new job; **Judy**’s friend, **Vicky Keys**, radiation after mastectomy
  - **Kenny Boyd**’s coworker **Kim Phillips**—asks our prayers for her heart condition
  - Remember **Paul Alfaro** and **Elaine Isbell**, who have returned to Christ and need our prayers and help. **Sandra Hampton** has returned to her husband’s bigamous marriage; pray for her and her family.
- CHRONIC CONDITIONS**  
**Logan Corray; Addison Tope; Christian Harrod; Rocco Jr; Pat Wilkes, Tim Huelsman**—asthma  
**Bill Dennis**—adjusting pacemaker and meds  
**Nell Free**—pacemaker, heart; back pain  
**Autumn Hadders**—epilepsy; celiac disease  
**Jonathan Hadders**—rheumatoid arthritis  
**Danielle Huelsman**—vertigo, CV syndrome  
**Hannah Huelsman**—polycythemia, thickening of blood; heart murmur, acid reflux, chest pain  
**Kirk Johnson**—MS  
**Menards**—aging; **Lloyd**, diabetes, weak;  
**Virginia**, macular degeneration; high BP  
**Sandra Perry**—neuropathy from diabetes  
**Cheryl Reames**—diverticulitis; fibromyalgia  
**Judy Sartin**—spinal stenosis; arthritis  
**Judy and Mike Strand**—hepatitis trtment  
**Lynda Szymanski**—COPD, lung weakness  
**Travel** **Ruth Campbell** returned home Sat; the **Larry Campbells** will be in AR Mon-Fri with **Pat**’s father

### The Legacy of Jesus, Peace, continued from p. 3

*minds through Christ Jesus,*" Phil 4:7. Notice the distinction. When you are at peace with God, you receive the peace of God. This is the subjective tranquility (peace of mind) that comes with the objective fact of your identification as part of God's team. Then you have "*the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding.*" It's a peace that's beyond our understanding—it doesn't make sense by human standards. It's crazy to have that much peace in the situation you're in. And what does this peace do? It guards (a military term that means to stand on sentinel or protection duty)—it stands on guard over your heart and your mind; it keeps you from blowing your cork, losing your cool, and winding up in a padded cell. The peace of God that comes when you recognize you're at peace with God calms you and protects you. When I realize that God is on my team, I don't have anything to worry about. The true realization that God is on my side gives me peace with myself so that I can settle down in my heart and be at rest. When everything else is exploding around me, I can be the one at peace, even though nobody else will understand it. What makes it possible is "*the Lord is at hand.*" Phil 4:5. Paul wasn't talking about the Second Coming; he was talking about the presence of the Lord. The Lord is here with us. "*The Lord is at hand. Consequently, be anxious for nothing.*" What are you worried about? The Lord is here, and He's on your team. Why are you worried? You say, "*But I've got problems.*" You do? Well, do this: "*In everything by prayer, supplication, with thanksgiving, just let your requests be made known to God.*" Phil 4:6. Just tell Him, "*Lord, I've got a problem. Please help. I thank You that You care for me and take away my worries.*" Let Him take care of it, 1 Pet 5:6. He is always there. "*The Lord is at hand.*" Don't worry. Pray about it, and the result will be that "*the peace of God will guard your mind.*" 4:7. Recognize, first, that we're at peace with God. He is always here, and instead of worrying, we pray and turn challenges over to Him. Then we will have the peace of God. The marvelous promise Jesus gave was "*I give you My peace.*" The same beautiful, unruffled serenity that marked Him can mark us. No fear, just peace. Do you know why Jesus had such peace? Think about it. Going to the cross, He could have been a nervous wreck. Think how you'd have been. But He went with absolute serenity, absolute peace. Do you know why? Because He knew the Father was standing by. He "*committed Himself to Him who judges righteously,*" 1 Pet 2:23. We have the same power to go through any trial with peace, because we know that the Father is standing by. "*These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me you might have peace.*" Jn 16:33. May it be known for all time to all the world, to anybody who ever hears it, that the only place you'll ever find peace is in Him. "*In the world, you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.*" 16:33. "Don't worry about trouble or about the world. You're going to have trouble. It's all right. I've already overcome it. I'm in control. Be at peace." As you meditate on Who God is, on the fact that He is on your team, the result can be peace. Next week: production of fruit.



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Larry Campbell (303) 246-8810  
DeWayne Howell (303) 973-7283

#### Preacher

Jim Reingrover (303) 973-5102

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### Assembly Schedule

#### Sunday

Bible classes	9:00 am
Morning assembly	10:00 am
Afternoon assembly	1:30 pm

#### Wednesday

Bible classes	7:30 pm
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#### Sunday morning

- **adult Bible class**, Lesson 8, "*My Brother's Keeper: the Disciple's Support*," Kenny Boyd

- **Sermon**, "What Does It Mean to 'Obey the Gospel'?" Jim Reingrover

#### Sunday afternoon

- **Lord's Supper, Living Like Christ lesson: "How Christ Taught His Disciples," Westin Cox**

#### Wednesday night: Studies from

**Ezekiel.** Get materials for both Sunday and Wednesday adult classes from the church's website under "Member Files."