



瀬田の丘



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Today's reading
Easter Sunday Year A (May 3, 2026)

Pastor: Father Hiroshi Konishi

First reading: Acts 6:1-7

Second reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel reading: John 14:1-12

John Chapter 14

The verb "pisteuo (in Koine Greek)" meaning "to believe," is used 241 times in the New Testament. (Synoptic Gospels)

In the Gospel of Matthew, it appears 10 times, in the Gospel of Mark, 14 times, and in the Gospel of Luke,

It is used 9 times in the Book of Letters. However, it is used a remarkable 98 times in the Gospel of John. In particular,

In the farewell sermon that begins with the Last Supper, it appears once in chapter 13, seven times in chapter 14, zero times in chapter 15, and four times in chapter 16.

It's used three times in Chapter 17. So, what's Chapter 14 like, where the word "believe" appears particularly often?

Verse 1a: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God."

Verse 1b: "Do not let your hearts be troubled... and believe in me."

Verse 10: "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me?"

Verse 11a: "Believe me when I tell you, 'I am in the Father, and the Father is in me.'"

Verse 11b: "Otherwise, believe by works."

Verse 12: "Whoever believes in me will do the works I do."

Verse 29: "I have told you before it happened, so that when it happens, you may believe."

Furthermore, Chapter 14 features many verbs of perception, such as "to know," "to see," and "to hear."

"Knowing" (ginōskō) is not simply about knowing intellectually, but about knowing through engagement.

Jesus , the Son of God , really is.

"To see" (horaō) is not merely to see with the eyes, but to see, acknowledge, and understand intellectually.

It means to understand, taste, experience, or participate in.

The term "hear" (akuō) does not appear directly in chapter 14, but the disciples tell Jesus that

Of course, we hear the words that are "said." And this "hearing" is not just about hearing with the ears,

It means to understand, to listen, to pay attention, to hear, and to comprehend.

In other words, "believing" is not about blindly believing, but about "believing after knowing," "believing after seeing,"

It involves acts of perception, such as "hearing and believing." The disciples, They came to believe in Jesus through "knowing, seeing, and hearing."

[Just a quick note]

God the Father as revealed by Jesus

To fully appreciate today's Gospel reading, it's helpful to know beforehand about the relationship between Jesus and God the Father.

It would be better to be there. Jesus affectionately called God "Abba, Father," and No, that 's not the case. In the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke), Jesus describes his relationship with God the Father.

You can see the indicated areas.

Jesus' Prayer (Mark 14:36)

Only my father knows (Mark 13, 32)

Begin your prayers with "Father" (Luke 11, 2; Matthew 6, 9).

Jesus believed in Abba, the Father (Mark 11:22-23)

Jesus loved Abba, the Father (Mark 12:28-34)

Jesus was the beloved Son of God the Father (Mark 1:11).

For us to know that God is our Father, each of us must have a Father within us.

We must start from an image, but transcend it and reach the image of the Father that Jesus shows us.

I think so. It may be a long road.