

OVERCOMING LIFE CHALLENGES

JOHN 14-16



Three Major Needs

1. Someone to love us
2. Someone we can trust in
3. A hope to live for – A better tomorrow

Disciples Were Deeply Troubled

- a. Jesus was leaving them (13:3)
- b. Persecution and troubles were coming

Disciples Were Deeply Troubled

John 16:1-2

I have told you these things so that you won't abandon your faith. For you will be expelled from the synagogues, and the time is coming when those who kill you will think they are doing a holy service for God.



Jesus gave them 3 sets of instructions for facing an uncertain future:

- a. Trust and remain in Me – Faith
- b. Remain in my love – Love
- c. Take heart, be courageous – Hope

Faith

John 14:1

Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God,
and trust also in me.

Faith

1. You have trusted in God

Deuteronomy 31:6

So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the LORD your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.

Faith

2. You can also trust in Me

John 14:6

This is who I Am:

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Faith

John 14:9-11

My Father and I share a unique relationship:

- ⁹ Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!
- ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?
- ¹¹ Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me.



Faith

3. You must remain in Me

Faith

John 15:4-5

⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. ⁵ "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. **Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit.** For apart from me you can do nothing.



Faith

The Blessings in Trusting Jesus

Faith

John 14:12-14

¹² "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and **even greater works**, because I am going to be with the Father. ¹³ You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ **Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!**

Faith

The Blessings in Trusting Jesus:

- Doing Greater Works
- Answered Prayers
- Much Fruitfulness



Love

1. Remain in My Love

Love

John 15:9-11

⁹ "I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. **Remain in my love.**¹⁰ When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!"

Love

2. Example of Jesus Remaining in His Father's Love

John 16:32

But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when you will be scattered, each one going his own way, leaving me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me.

Love

The Blessing of Abiding in Jesus' Love:
Overflowing Joy in the midst of Troubles

John 15:11

I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!

Hope

1. We can take heart and be courageous because Jesus has overcome the world!

John 16:33

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. **But take heart, because I have overcome the world.**

Jesus Saw His Ultimate Victory

Matthew 19:28

Jesus replied, "I assure you that **when the world is made new and the Son of Man sits upon his glorious throne**, you who have been my followers will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Jesus Saw His Ultimate Victory

Hebrews 12:2

Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honour beside God's throne.

Hope

2. Why can we have the courage to face our present troubles?

a. Jesus has already overcome sin, death and Satan!

Hope

2. Why can we have the courage to face our present troubles?

b. Jesus has already prepared a place for us in His Father's House! We are destined for Heaven!

Hope

2. Why can we have the courage to face our present troubles?

c. Soon, in the new world, Jesus will reign on His glorious throne! Then all pains, sorrows and troubles will cease!

Revelation 21:1-4

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone.

² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

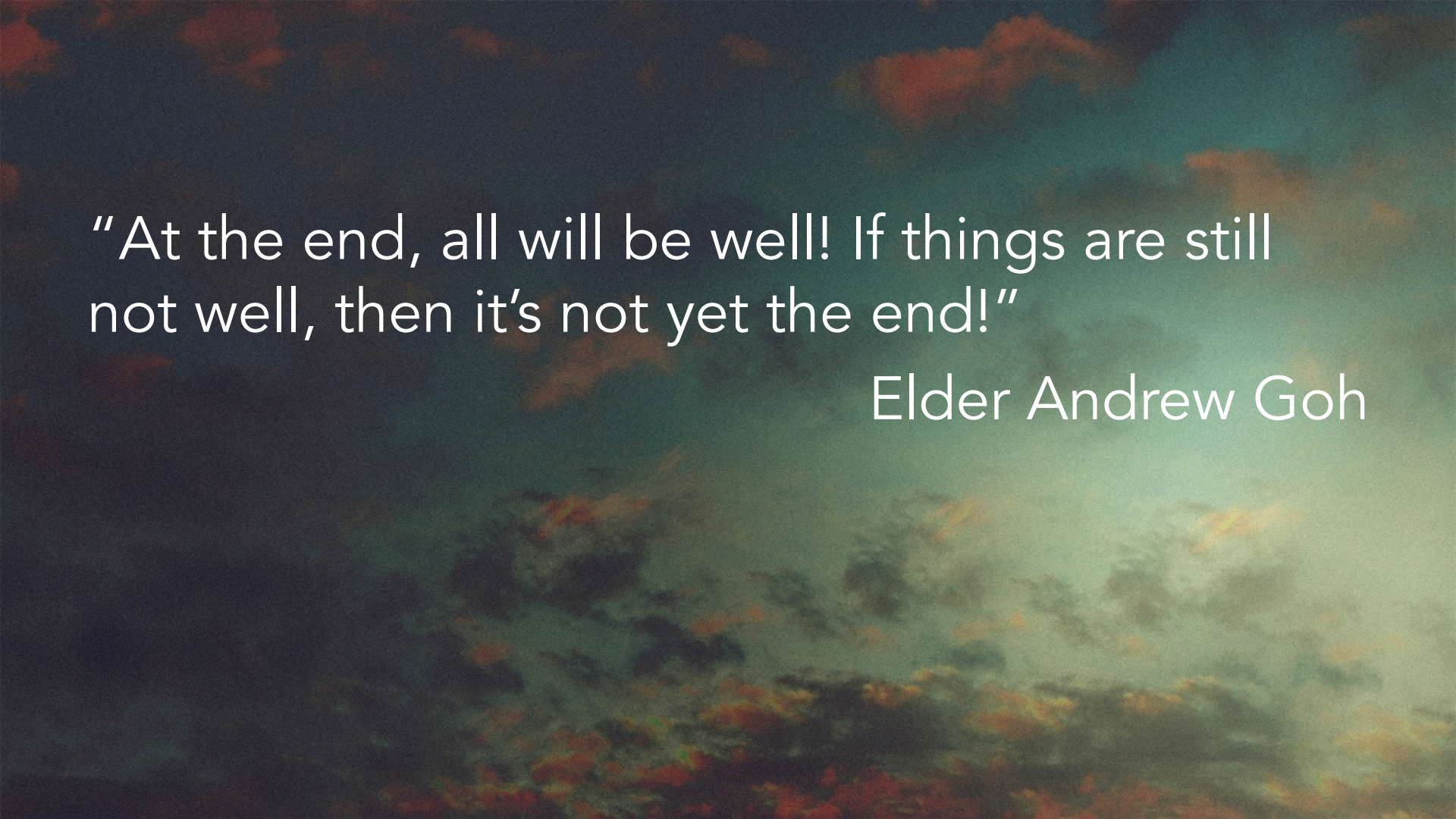
Revelation 21:1-4

³ I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. ⁴ **He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.**"

The Importance of Having Hope

¹⁸ Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

Romans 8:18



"At the end, all will be well! If things are still not well, then it's not yet the end!"

Elder Andrew Goh

Hope

The Blessings in holding on to our Hope:

- Supernatural peace (John 16:33)
- Great joy in looking forward to that blissful day (Romans 5:1-2)



How do we appropriate
Faith, Love and Hope
during our time of trial?

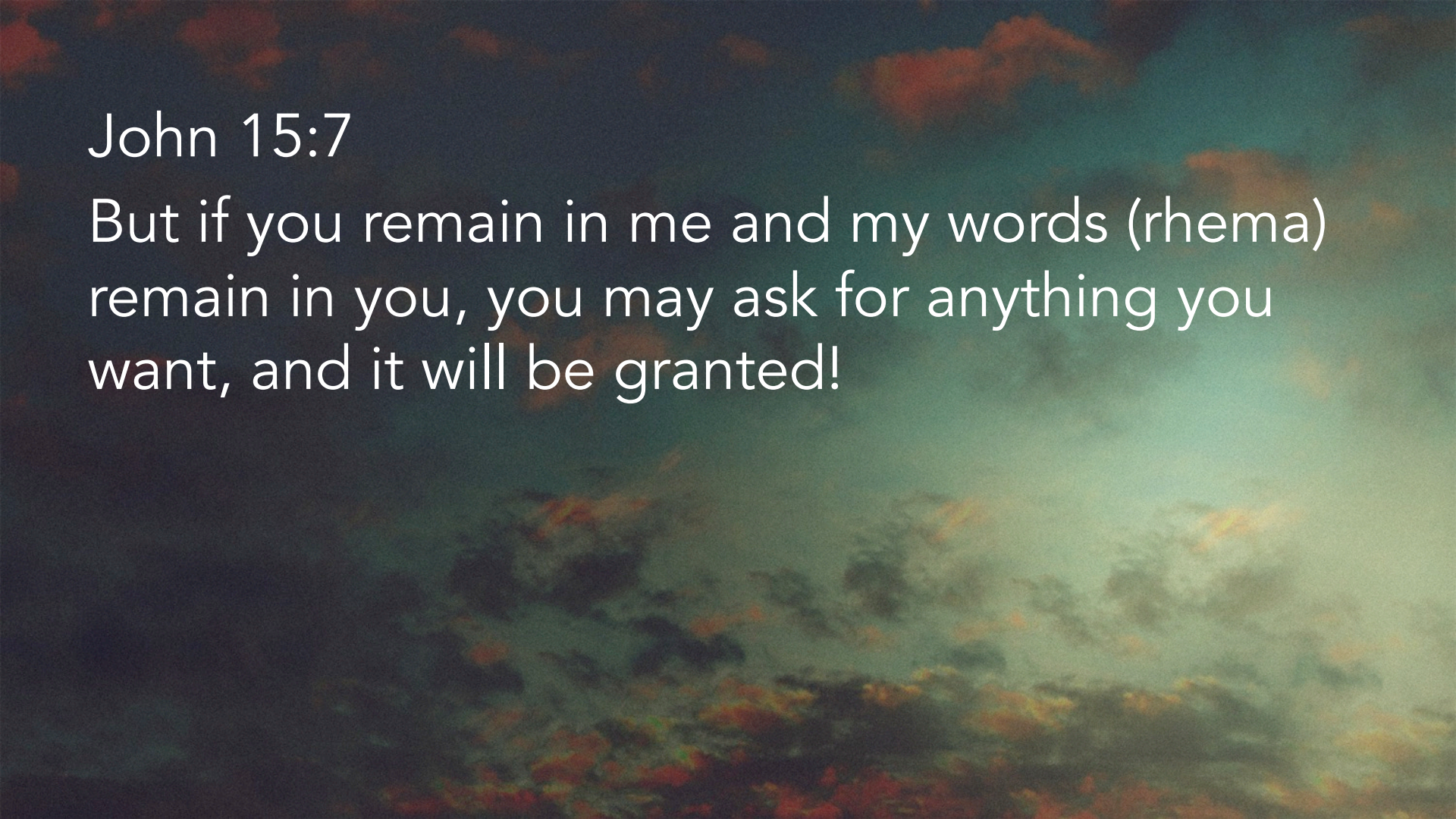


Guided Contemplation

- a. What is one major challenge that you are presently facing?
- b. Faith: Can you trust Jesus to see you through this trial? How can you involve Him in this situation?
- c. Love: Do you believe that God is still good, kind and loving to you? Even when you are hurting?

Guided Contemplation

- d. Hope: Jesus has overcome the world and you have a secure place in heaven. How can this hope encourage you in your present situation? (Romans 8:18)
- e. Hope: What has the Lord promised you regarding this present trial? Will you keep praying for God's promise (rhema) to be fulfilled? (John 15:7)



John 15:7

But if you remain in me and my words (rhema) remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!