

“The Boldness Of Belief”
John 14:12-14

Introduction:

1. Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles:
 - To John 14 This Morning:
 - Where - We Will Continue Listening In To:
 - The Upper Room Discourse:
 - That Jesus Had With His Eleven Closest Disciples:
 - On The Very Last Night:
 - Of His Life Before The Cross!
 - And - As We Think Back To:
 - What Jesus Already Said:
 - In The First 11 Verses!
 - I Think It's Pretty Clear That:
2. It Took Boldness:
 - For Jesus To Make:
 - The Claims That He Did!
 - It Took Boldness:
 - For Jesus To Confront:
 - Their Fears & Their Lack:
 - Of Faith - Back In 11:1!
 - “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me!”
 - It Took Boldness:
 - For Jesus To Critique:
 - Their Knowledge & Understanding:
 - Of Him & His Father - In 11:7!
 - “If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also!”
 - Of Course - At The Same Time:
 - Jesus Took The Time:
 - To Comfort & Confirm Them:
 - In Whatever Faith They Did Have!
 - But - It Still Took Boldness:
 - For Jesus To Claim That:
 - He Alone Was The Source Of That Comfort & Assurance!
 - And So - When Jesus Said:
 - In 14:6 - “I Am The, And The Truth, And The Life: No Man Cometh Unto The Father, But By Me!”
 - That Was Very Bold!
3. But - Jesus Also Knew That:
 - It Would Take Boldness:
 - For His Disciples:
 - To Believe In:
 - His Bold Claims!
 - This Was True For His Disciples:
 - Back Then! And - This Is Still True:
 - For His Disciples Today!
 - And This Is Why:
 - In The Verses We Come To Today:
 - In John 14:12-14:
 - Jesus Challenges Us:
 - To Believe In Him:
 - Boldly!
4. Which Is Why - Once Again:
 - Jesus Begins His Challenge With:
 - Some Familiar - But Still Forceful - Words:
 - “Verily, Verily, I Say Unto You!”
 - This Is The 22nd Time In John:
 - Out Of 25 Times In The Entire Book:

- Where Jesus Uses This Statement:
 - To Introduce An Important Truth!
- It Is - A Truth That Is:
 - Certain!
 - Because He Uses The Word:
 - “Amen” / “Verily” / “Truly” - Not Just Once, But Twice!
- It Is Also - A Truth That Is:
 - Constant!
 - Because When Jesus Says It:
 - He Never Takes It Back!
- And - It Is Especially - A Truth That Is:
 - Consequential!
 - Because It Matters:
 - To “You” & To Me!

5. Jesus Said This Here:

- Because He Wanted To Get Our Attention:
 - **Off Of** The Questions:
 - That The Disciples Had:
 - In Their Minds!
 - Some Of Which Had Already Been Voiced By Thomas & Philip!
- And - Back **On To**:
 - The Main Point & Purpose:
 - Of His Entire Discourse!
 - Which Was For Them & For Us:
 - To Grow In Our Faith & Belief:
 - In Him - With All Of Our Heart!

6. And So - Jesus Makes His Challenge:

- Even - Without Making Any Commands:
 - When He Then Says:
 - 14:12-14 - “He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. / And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. / If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it!”
- Now - All Of These Words:
 - Are Very Bold!
 - But They Are Based On:
 - The First Thing We Need To Consider:
 - Which Is:

1. ***A Bold Promise From Jesus!***

- A Bold Promise From Jesus:
 - Which Is Found Right In The Middle Of:
 - 14:12 - “The Works That I Do Shall He Do Also; And Greater Works Than These Shall He Do!”
 - This Is A Very Bold Promise:
 - From Jesus - To His Disciples!
 - To Those Who Truly Believe In Him!
 - Now - I Don’t Know About You:
 - But This Is Something:
 - That - As A Christian:
 - I Would Really Like To Experience!
 - Don’t You?
 - So - What Is Jesus Saying:
 - In This Bold Promise?
- The First Part Of Jesus’ Promise:
 - Has To Do With:
 - The Function Of His Works!
 - Because - He Promises That:
 - “He That Believeth On Me, The Works That I Do Shall He Do Also!”
 - In This Part Of His Promise:
 - Jesus Has In Mind:

- *All Of His Works:*
 - *As A Whole!*
 - *As A Whole - In Time!*
 - Past / Present / Future!
 - *As A Whole - In Kind!*
 - From His Teaching To His Touching!
- But - What Were The *Works:*
 - Jesus Was Doing?
 - In Context - He Is Not Primarily Talking About:
 - The Individual Acts Of Miracles That We Find In The Gospels:
 - Which Is What Some Have Taken To Be The Meaning Of This Verse!
- Instead - Jesus Is Talking About:
 - Fulfilling The Function & The Purpose:
 - Of *All Of His Works!*
 - Which Was To Do The Works & Fulfill The Will:
 - Of His Father!
 - Just Like He Just Said In 14:10:
 - “The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works!”
- So - Jesus Makes This Bold Promise:
 - To Those Who Believe In Him!
 - Now - *You Will Be Able To:*
 - Do The Works & Fulfill The Will Of God The Father:
 - In Your Life - Just As He Did In His Life!
 - This Is Bold - Because:
 - Apart From Christ:
 - You Never Did God’s Works & You Never Could Fulfill God’s Will!
 - But Now - Through Faith In Him:
 - You Not Only Can:
 - You Will!
- But - There’s Something Else:
 - About This Promise - And What:
 - Those Works Are Meant To Accomplish!
 - For This - We Need To Remember:
 - What Jesus Said Back In:
 - 6:29 - “This Is The Work Of God, That Ye Believe On Him Whom He Hath Sent!”
 - This Was & Still Is:
 - The Main Work Of God:
 - In This World!
 - To Bring His People:
 - To Faith In His Son:
 - Jesus Christ - For Salvation & Eternal Life!
 - And - Every Other Work:
 - That Jesus Did - Was Just A “Supporting Work” - In Order To Accomplish:
 - His Father’s Main Work!
 - And So - When You Believe In Christ:
 - You Now Play A Part:
 - In God’s Work:
 - To Bring Others To Christ:
 - To Believe In Him As Well!
 - And - To Be Used By God:
 - To Touch & Heal A Heart:
 - For Eternal Life!
 - Is An Even Greater Miracle Than:
 - To Touch & Heal Someone’s Body - In This Life!
 - But Then Jesus Adds:
 - The Second Part Of His Promise:
 - Which Has To Do With:

- The Fruitfulness Of His Works!
 - Because - He Also Promises That:
 - “He That Believeth On Me, The Works That I Do Shall He Do Also; And Greater Works / Things Than These Shall He Do!”
- Its One Thing - To Be Able To:
 - Serve God *As* Jesus Did!
 - But - Its Another Thing:
 - To Be Able To Serve God:
 - In A *Greater* Way Than Jesus Did!
 - This Too Is A Bold Promise!
 - But - This Too Is Something:
 - That I Want To Experience!
 - Don’t You?
- Of Course - We Know From Back In 13:16:
 - That - “The Servant Is Not Greater Than His Lord!”
 - So - Jesus Is Not Talking About:
 - The Greatness Of His Nature:
 - As The Son Of God!
 - But - He Does Say That:
 - In Some Way:
 - What We Will Do - Will Be:
 - *Greater* Than What He Himself Has Done!
 - Of Course - When Jesus Said These Words:
 - He Was Looking At:
 - The *Few* Who He Had With Him:
 - In The Upper Room!
 - Just 11!
 - But - He Was Also Looking Forward To The Time:
 - When His Work With Them:
 - Would Be Multiplied:
 - Even In Exponential Ways!
 - Not Only Would His Disciples:
 - Extend His Work:
 - Through The Preaching Of The Gospel!
 - They Would Expand His Work:
 - To The Point That By The Time Acts 17 Comes Around:
 - People Would Be Complaining That “These That Have Turned The World Upside Down Are Come Hither Also!”
 - The Works That Christians Can Do:
 - Are *Greater* Than The Works:
 - That Christ Did - Not Because:
 - They Are Greater:
 - In Quality! But Because:
 - They Are Greater:
 - In Quantity & Magnitude!
 - And - This Is A Bold Promise!
 - And - I Would Hope:
 - This Is Something That:
 - You - As An Individual - And:
 - We - As A Church:
 - Want To Experience:
 - In A Fresh Way Today!
 - Not Just Thinking That:
 - This Was Just A Promise:
 - For The Disciples Back Then!
 - But That - This Is A Promise:
 - For Us Today!
 - And So - If This Is:
 - What You Want & What You Desire:

- Then - Let This Be A Challenge To You:
- To Make:

2. ***A Bold Pursuit Of Jesus!***

- A Bold Pursuit Of Jesus!
 - The Sole Condition & Main Criteria:
 - To Experience This Bold Promise:
 - From Jesus - Is Found In The Phrase:
 - “He That Believeth On Me!”
 - Of Course - Faith & Belief:
 - In Jesus - Is A Central Theme:
 - All Throughout The Gospel Of John!
 - And - To “Believe” Means:
 - First Of All That:
 - You Are Committed:
 - To The Truth-Claims:
 - Of Jesus!
 - As - The Only-Begotten Son - Sent From Heaven:
 - To Be The Only Savior:
 - Through His Once-For-All Sacrifice:
 - For Our Sin!
 - Earlier In This Gospel:
 - We Met John The Baptist:
 - Who Came “For A Witness, To Bear Witness Of The Light, That All Men Through Him Might Believe!” (1:7)
 - In Jesus!
 - Then - Throughout His Entire Life & Ministry:
 - Jesus Presented All Of His Words & Works:
 - So That - “Ye May Know, And Believe, That The Father Is In Me, And I In Him!” (10:38)
 - And Then - John Tells Us:
 - The Very Purpose Behind Writing His Gospel:
 - “But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!” (20:31)
 - Are You Committed:
 - To Believe In Jesus Christ:
 - And All Of His Claims:
 - As Your Savior?
 - Then - This Bold Promise From Jesus:
 - Is For You!
 - And - You Can Pursue It Boldly:
 - With All Of Your Heart!
 - Now - You *Can* Do:
 - The Works He Has Done:
 - To An Even Greater Extent!
 - But - To “Believe” Here:
 - Also Means That:
- You Are Characterized:
 - By Faith In Christ!
 - You Are One Who Is Known For:
 - “Believing In Him!”
 - And - Your Faith & Trust:
 - In The Lord:
 - Will Continue To Grow!
- You Will Never Experience:
 - The Bold Promise Of Jesus:
 - Until & Unless:
 - You Pursue It Boldly:
 - Through A Growing Faith:

- In Jesus!
- A Faith That:
 - Becomes Such A Part Of You:
 - That It Characterizes You!
 - That It Is Your:
 - Main Identification!
- A Faith That
 - Grows - Even Though:
 - Jesus Is No Longer Physically:
 - Here With Us!
- Because - As Jesus Said:
 - At The End Of 14:12:
 - His Departure Will Provide:
 - The Power To His Promise!
 - “Because I Go To My Father!”
 - He Had Already Told Them About This:
 - Several Times!
 - But - Instead Of Stoking Their Fears:
 - It Was Meant To Increase:
 - Their Faith & Fruitfulness In Him!
- Now - You Can Pursue After:
 - The Promise Of Jesus:
 - With Boldness & Confidence!
 - That - “Because” Jesus Is In Heaven Right Now:
 - You Can & Will:
 - Do In Your Life:
 - What He Did In His:
 - And, Together, Even More!
 - You See - Jesus Is *Just Fine*:
 - With His Followers Doing:
 - “Greater Things” Than He Did:
 - In This World!
 - Because - He Knows That:
 - As We Do *His* Works:
 - He Is Still Active In *Our* Works - Which Are:
 - The Very Works Of His Father!
 - And - This Can Be True For:
 - Anyone Who “Believeth In Him!”
 - But - Jesus Also Wants To Challenge You:
 - To Pursue His Promise With:

3. ***A Bold Prayer To Jesus!***

- A Bold Prayer To Jesus!
 - Which Is What We Find Next In:
 - 14:13 - Where Jesus Adds:
 - “And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son!”
 - Now - With These Words:
 - Jesus Connects:
 - Our Bold Pursuit:
 - Of His Bold Promise:
 - With Bold Prayer!
 - Which Means That:
 - We Cannot Make Our Pursuit:
 - Without Prayer!
 - Because - As Jesus Will Tell Us:
 - In 15:5 - “Without Me Ye Can Do Nothing!”
 - And So - A Bold Pursuit:
 - To Do The Works Of Jesus:

- Will Depend On:
 - Bold Prayer!
- Believing That:
 - “Whatever Ye Shall Ask In My Name, That Will I Do!”
 - Of Course - This Is Another Bold Promise From The Lord:
 - As Well!
- And So - He Challenges Us Again:
 - Without Commanding Us:
 - To Pray According To His Promise!
 - And To - “Ask & Seek & Knock!”
 - Because - When You:
 - “Ask - It Shall Be Given You! Seek, And Ye Shall Find! Knock, And It Shall Be Opened Unto You!” (Luke 11:9)
- And - When You Pray:
 - In This Way:
 - It Is Jesus Who Will Do:
 - His Works - In & Through:
 - Your Works:
 - For Him!
- But - What Does It Mean:
 - To Pray & To:
 - “Ask In (His) Name?”
 - It Means - To Pray & To Ask:
 - As Jesus Himself Would & Did!
 - Of Course - Jesus Was:
 - A Man Of Prayer:
 - And - Much Can Be Learned:
 - From His Prayers!
 - But - Just Want To Consider:
 - Three Things That Can Make Up:
 - A Bold Prayer To Jesus!
- First - Pray What Jesus Prayed For!
 - And - Ask For What Jesus Asked For!
 - Because - Jesus Always Asked:
 - For His Fathers’ Will:
 - To Be Done!
 - Even As He Was Suffering:
 - In Agony In The Garden Of Gethsemane:
 - He Surrendered His Human Will:
 - To His Father - When He Prayed:
 - Luke 22:42 - “Father, If Thou Be Willing, Remove This Cup From Me: Nevertheless Not My Will, But Thine, Be Done!”
 - And Then - As He Was Teaching His Disciples:
 - To Pray - One Of The First Requests:
 - Out Of His Mouth Was:
 - “Thy Will Be Done!”
 - And So - When You Ask For:
 - What Jesus Asked For:
 - “In His Name” - He Promises:
 - “That Will I Do!”
 - Later - John Would Write:
 - From His Own Experience:
 - In 1 John 5:14 - “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us!”
- This Is How You Pray:
 - A Bold Prayer!
 - And The More You Know About:
 - God’s Will - The Bolder:
 - Your Prayer Can Be!

- But Then - Pray How Jesus Prayed!
 - And - Ask How Jesus Asked!
 - Because - Jesus Always Asked:
 - In Faith & Confidence:
 - That His Father Not Only:
 - Heard Him - But Would:
 - Answer Him!
 - In John 11 - Just Before Jesus:
 - Raised His Good Friend & Follower Lazarus:
 - From The Dead - We Are Told That:
 - He - "Lifted Up His Eyes, And Said, Father, I Thank Thee That Thou Hast Heard Me! And I Knew That Thou Hearest Me Always!" (11:41-42)
 - This Too Is How You Pray:
 - A Bold Prayer - Even As You:
 - Boldly Pursue After:
 - The Works Of Jesus!
 - But - As James Reminds Us:
 - "Let (Us) Ask In Faith, Nothing Wavering!" (James 1:6)
- And Then - Pray Why Jesus Prayed!
 - And - Ask Why Jesus Asked!
 - Because - Jesus Always Asked:
 - For The Glory Of His Father!
 - In Fact - This Is:
 - The Very Reason Why:
 - He Calls On Us & Challenges Us:
 - To Pray In His Name!
 - So That - 14:13:
 - "The Father May Be Glorified In The Son!"
- So - As You Pursue After:
 - The Promise Of Jesus:
 - Through Faith & Prayer:
 - God Is Glorified!
 - And - This Is Why:
 - Jesus Made This:
 - Bold Promise!
 - To Encourage & Challenge You:
 - To Boldly Pursue:
 - After His Promise:
 - Through Bold Prayer!
 - Jesus Wants You To Succeed:
 - In Your Service For The Lord!
 - Because - He Knows That:
 - When You Do:
 - His Father Will Be Glorified:
 - Even More!

Conclusion:

1. This Is A Bold Way Of Living!
 - But - Jesus Would Have It:
 - No Other Way!

Grace Baptist Church
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
 4245 North 200 West
 Greenfield, Indiana 46140
 317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com