

## Grain

"We are problems that want to be solved / We are children that need to be loved / We were willing, we came when you called / But man, you fooled us, enough is enough, oh / What about us?" —Pink, Johnny McDaid, and Steve Mac

## Field

<sup>15</sup>"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. <sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them." John 14:15-21

## Thoughts by Pastor James Lynch, Town of Dunn, WI

While we can be pretty certain Pink didn't have the apostles in mind when she dropped her 2017 hit "What About Us," we can be equally certain she captured what they are feeling as they sit around the table listening to Jesus say goodbye – for now. Discombobulated might sum it up. How about these: Angry. Betrayed. Confused. Unsettled. Shocked. Those emotions might also be coming into play.

The apostles – the Twelve, as the author of the gospel of John refers to them – see themselves as being all in. They came, after all, when he called. They don't want to feel like they've been fooled. No one likes that.

When things don't go exactly the way they should – as in, the way we think they ought to go – we can feel the same range of emotions. Fear about the future is very real for us, as it would have been for the Twelve. Insecurity would have been rampant. Jesus said he's going to send us the Holy Spirit, one said. What's that look like, another asked? Don't know. Never seen it. What's that sound like, another voice called out? Don't know. Never heard it. How will we know when the Holy Spirit arrives? Don't know. But Jesus says we will. In the meantime, yet another spoke up, what about us?

How we see and react to changing fortunes of life, the swirling winds, the ups and downs too often depends on how we are affected. Jesus takes the apostles – and by extension, us – in another direction. He wants us to see that we will be taken care of, even if we can't see that at the moment. He wants us to see that we all are children who need to be loved, and that because of him, because of us, all will be loved, and all will live. Happy Monday!

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Many blessings upon you,

Pastor Jim