

Memory Verse

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

GRACELIFE  CHURCH

John 14:1-6

Is Jesus the Only
Way?

John 14:1-6

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 2In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. 4And you know the way to where I

John 14:1-6

am going.” 5Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” 6Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

A. The Context

Jesus is eating with His disciples, says one will betray him, and Judas has already left. He *commands them to love one another* and *foretells Peters denial*. He is going away and sorrow filled their hearts. He said to them not to be sorrowful, but *believe in God and Him*.

A. The Context

He tells them what is being prepared, and when He returns, *He will bring them and us to Himself*. They didn't understand. Thomas asked about the way He was going. Then Jesus talked about His character, and one of the many statements in the Bible that says *there is only one way to heaven!*

A. The Context

In all 3 of the statements, there is the definite article - **THE**.

Jesus said He was, and is, **THE** way,
THE truth and **THE** life...

B. The Way

Jesus says He is "*the way*." *The way to what?* Jesus is addressing Thomas' question, because Thomas didn't know where He was going, and didn't know the way to get there. He, and the other disciples, were probably thinking Jesus was going to another physical location.

B. The Way

Since they *didn't know where He was going, they didn't know how to get there.* Jesus uses their physical or earthly misunderstanding to teach a spiritual truth. He often did this...

He **IS** the way! *He is the path that every Christian should follow...*

C. The Truth

The *Barna research group*, in coordination with *Arizona Christian University*, did a study in May 2020 called *American Worldview Inventory 2020*.

It exposed some disturbing results.

C. The Truth

“[R]ecognition of God as the source of truth doesn’t necessarily translate into recognizing an absolute moral standard for everyday life.

Despite 72% of Evangelicals identifying God as the source of truth, 46% reject absolute moral truth while 48% accept it. Similarly, 69% of born-

C. The Truth

again Christians point to God as the source of truth, but only 43% embrace a standard of absolute moral truth. Among Pentecostals, 70% point to God as the source of truth, but only 31% recognize absolute moral truth.”

From: <https://www.faithwire.com/2020/05/28/majority-of-americans-including-some-christians-reject-moral-absolutes/?fbclid=IwAR1BRBcKC4w92Mr-bcSKYM2b3tXeMEWIFzACbgKsC1VkdN0bAR9Ix7UTft8>

C. The Truth

Perhaps most stunning, this latest research shows a rejection of God's truth and absolute moral standards by American Christians, those seen as most likely to hold traditional standards of morality. Evangelicals, defined as believing the Bible to be the true, reliable word of God,

C. The Truth

are just as likely to reject absolute moral truth (46%) as to accept its existence (48%). And only a **minority** of born-again Christians—**43%**—still **embrace absolute truth.**

C. The Truth

The study found that the pull of secularism is especially strong among younger Americans, with those **under age 30** **much less likely** than older adults to select God as the basis of truth (**31%** compared to 45%), and more likely to say that moral standards are decided by the **individual** (60%).

From: <https://www.arizonachristian.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/AWVI-2020-Release-05-Perceptions-of-Truth.pdf>

C. The Truth

Pontius Pilate asked one of the most important questions in history, which is *still asked today*:

What is truth? We can philosophically and abstractly define truth as ***that which is outside of us and applies to all people, at all times, in all situations and does not change.***

C. The Truth

The eternal Son of God, *God in human flesh* says that HE is the truth. While many religious leaders through history have *claimed to teach the truth, only Jesus claims to be truth.*

C. The Truth

Truth exists! *Jesus is the truth!* Have you embraced Him as Lord and Savior? Are you *defending the truth* and that *truth is found in the Word of God and Christ?* More and more, Christians are being pressured on **all sides** to *step away from faithfulness to Christ and His word*, often under the guise of something

C. The Truth

*"good" or "just." When you look into it, you find it has **nothing** to do with those things. We must not *compromise the truth of God's word*. Don't give in to the culture! Don't let the world, media, friends, and or family *cause you to deny or compromise the truth!* Take **truth** seriously! Take the **Bible** seriously.*

D. The Life

He is the way to *eternal life*. There is additional insight we sometimes forget. *He is the way to have life now!* In *John 9*, Jesus just healed the man born blind.

D. The Life

A conversation started and continued in *John 10*, where Jesus said *He is the Good Shepherd* known by His sheep. Jesus spoke about a contrary group of “*thieves and robbers*” (10:8), the religious leaders as false shepherds who didn’t care for the sheep.

D. The Life

In *John 10:10* Jesus said,

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

Jesus explained to the Pharisees – and *all who were willing to listen*, us included - what He means.

D. The Life

What do shepherds do?

They *love* their sheep, *guard* sheep from robbers, *protect* sheep from predators, and *provide* for sheep out of love. The sheep know the shepherd's voice and when they hear him they follow him.

D. The Life

The “*abundant life*” Jesus gives us is:

1. Intimate fellowship with God because of His love and forgiveness.
2. Freedom from the bondage of legalism because of His truth.

D. The Life

3. Freedom from sin and death because of His life, death and resurrection.

4. Freedom from and religious lies and liars because we have His Spirit in us.

D. The Life

That is what it means to live the “*abundant life*” today and is to *live in and by God’s grace*. To live apart from His grace is to be *enslaved to legalism*. He is the *door to the sheepfold* where there is protection, provision, and intimate fellowship with God.

E. The Only Way

In one sense, Jesus summarizes what He is talking about. He is the *only way* to have a relationship with God!

When Jesus says, "*No one*" it is a powerful word in Greek. It leaves *no room for an exception*. It *excludes everything else*. Jesus says HE is the **ONLY WAY** of salvation!

E. The Only Way

Questions:

1. Isn't it arrogant to say there is only 1 way to heaven?
2. Isn't it unloving to say there is only 1 way to heaven?
3. What about all of the "innocent" people?
4. What about those who are sincere?