



Small Group Study Guide for May 7, 2023

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Jesus is the only way to eternal life, and that's the truth! Many refuse to believe it. Jesus shows us God's true heart and the Father's plan for our salvation. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. Share a story where you going somewhere and you got lost. (we've all done it!)
2. How do you prefer to get directions? Paper maps, GPS, google maps, siri, or any other method of getting directions?

In the Word: Read John 14:1-14

3. Jesus is preparing His disciples for the time when He will be away from them, returning to the Father. Jesus comforts them and assures them that they believe/trust in God and in Him. Then He talks about His Father's house? What does this description of heaven ("My Father's house) convey about heaven to us? What is Jesus trying to tell us about heaven when He describes it this way?
4. There is a little back and forth with Jesus and the disciples when Jesus says, "you know the way..." (verse 4) and Thomas says, "Lord, we don't know the way..." (verse 5) and Jesus replies with "I am the way..." How is this conversation played out in our own lives? Do we ever have moments with God like this where He says something in His word, we question it, and Jesus points us to Him?
5. Jesus says that He is the way, the truth, and the life. Explain and discuss these three aspects of Jesus.

Way –

Truth –

Life -

6. Jesus makes a very exclusive claim in verse 6 when He says, “no one comes to the Father except through me.” Look up Acts 4:12 and discuss how these verses are similar. (Theological note: This is called ‘*the scandal of particularity*’ – Jesus is the only way to heaven)

7. Look at how Jesus describes His relation with the Father in verses 9-11. How is Jesus equating Himself with God here, and what do these verses say about the Trinity?

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

8. How does Jesus’ mention of the many rooms in His Father’s house give us peace and comfort when mourning a loved one?

9. How can Christians believe that Jesus is the only way to salvation/heaven and yet be kind and respectful to people of other faiths and religions?

10. Pilate asked Jesus, “What is truth?” It turns out that truth is a Person – it’s Jesus. Why does our world have such a hard time seeking truth these days?

11. How do we as a church and school point people to Jesus, the way, the truth, and the life?

Prayer: Praise Jesus for showing us the way, and revealing Himself to us as our Savior. Ask for the Holy Spirit to help us share the Good News of Jesus with others, so that they too can know the way, the truth, and the life. Pray for God’s peace and comfort for all those who mourn their loved ones, and look forward to being together again in our Father’s house.

Next Week: As Paul witnessed to the people of Athens, he shared with them the Good News of Jesus in terms they could understand. We should be prepared to give a reason for the hope that we have in a thoughtful, winsome way, to let the Spirit do His work in people’s hearts.