

## Home study notes 10/11/24

### I AM the Way, the Truth & the Life

- *What do you think heaven will be like?*
- *How do you feel about dying?*

When we looked at Jesus the “Resurrection and the Life” last month we discussed that there is hope on both sides of the grave. On this side, in life, we have a hope that God will transform us into who He wants us to be, that He touches our hearts, that He is present with us - especially in the tough times, that He helps us rejoice and brings us joy. On the other side of death, for those of us who believe in Jesus, there is eternity with the Father - the hope that we will go ‘from glory to glory’ in the blink of an eye.

Jesus made the statement “I AM the Way, the Truth and the Life” the night before He died, as He finished the Passover meal with the disciples. He was trying to prepare them for His impending death by talking about going to prepare a place for them in heaven. We might not understand how confusing this would be for them - because we know what happens in the days following this story - but for the disciples, Jesus was alive and well and they could not imagine Jesus dying - never mind being resurrected or the ascension.

Read John 14: 1- 10

The disciples don’t understand what Jesus is saying about going to the Father to prepare a place for them and especially the statement that they know the place where He is going. Thomas is bold enough to say that they don’t even know where Jesus is going - so they have no idea how to get there!

- *Are you honest and bold enough to ask the difficult questions like Thomas?*
- *What questions do you have about your walk with Jesus that you would like answers to?*

Jesus’ response to Thomas is “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The “Way” is central ... Jesus is the way to the Father - He is the ONLY way to God the Father. He represents and is a picture of the Father’s character.

Jesus is the Way because He is the Truth and the Life. He reveals the TRUTH about the Father. He is the LIFE because of the life that God gives us through Jesus.

Jesus does 2 things:

1. Jesus shows the way to the Father - “You get there by knowing ME “- Jesus is the access to the Father - Jesus connects us to the Father, and the Spirit in us helps us understand the nature of the Father. Jesus has reveal all we need to know the Father.
2. Jesus shows us the way to live - to live the example that Jesus has been. The early Christians were known as being members of “The Way” - they were easily identifiable as being different and having a different way of life. The spirit of God was in them and the fruits of the Spirits overflowed through them

- *Are we identifiable as being different to non-believers?*
- *In what ways should we be different and identifiable?*

Jesus was saying that if they followed Him and His example then they will reach their destination - the Father.

- *As believers, where do we want to get to - this side of the grave?*
  - *Do we really want to experience more of Jesus and experience more of the Spirit?*
  - *What would this look like practically?*
  - *Are our lives reflecting these aims - our habits, our activities, our plans?*
  - *What changes do we need to make to follow Jesus' example more closely?*
  - *Are we prepared to do these things?*
- *How can these 2 scripture passages help us achieve Christ-likeness?*

**Romans 8: 5-6**

**Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.**

**Jesus says:**

If you are looking for the Way to the father - that's me.

If you are looking for the Truth - that's me.

If you are looking for life - that's found in me.

**Pray for each other that we can encourage each other to be all that Christ has called us to be.**

**John 14:4**

**Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.**