

Do you remember a time when you were waiting and not sure what the outcome would be in a situation you were facing? The Bible is filled with accounts of people facing uncertainty. One of these moments occurred when Jesus and his disciples gathered to celebrate the Passover Meal. It was a night of celebration that quickly turned into a night of uncertainty and then fear as Jesus was arrested before his crucifixion.

The celebratory meal took a turn as Jesus began talking about what was about to happen (see John 13). It was a heavy discussion, and Jesus himself was troubled (see John 13:21). But in chapter 14 Jesus began by encouraging the disciples, saying, *“Let not your hearts be troubled”* (John 14:1a).

Whatever you might be going through today, Jesus knows, because he experienced it. He experienced loneliness, grief, betrayal, and being misunderstood. And he says to you as he said to his disciples, *“let your hearts be troubled.”*

What Jesus said next is the reason we can overcome these trials: *“Believe in God; believe also in me”* John 14:1b. Jesus continued to teach his disciples that he was going to prepare a place for us and that he is coming back again (see John 14:2-3). There is so much more than the trials of this life, so much more!

Then Jesus made this powerful declaration, *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”* (John 14:6).

Jesus made three self-identifying statements to his disciples that give us comfort today.

Jesus is the Way

Sadly today, many people are on the wrong path, and the result is eternal suffering and separation from God (see Proverbs 14:12). Jesus doesn't simply point out the way; he is the way!

Our pride tempts us to follow our own way. Our schedules are overwhelming and we make rash life choices that lead to pain. But Jesus offers us a much better way (see Matthew 11:28-30). Jesus says, “if you're worn out, burned out, and you don't seem to be seeing any breakthrough, come and join me because I am the way” (my paraphrase).

Jesus is the way for struggling marriages, those battling addictions, those with chronic illness, and for every challenge of life. Jesus promises peace in times of uncertainty.

Are you living a life that follows Jesus as the Way? Or are you making your own way and hoping for the best?

Jesus is the Truth

We are inundated with lies within and without. Culture tries to convince us that truth is relative. The news media, AI, and social media are constantly bombarding us with blatant lies. But there is only one person with whom we will have perfect peace (see Isaiah 26:3). What is your mind fixed on? What consumes your mind? There is no shortage of things to consume our mind: politics, finances, health or even the Middle East (see 2 Corinthians 10:5).

But how do we do this? By daily adjusting our thinking and aligning our thoughts with the Word of God (see Philippians 4:8). This is where we will find peace.

Nothing changes until we face the truth. And the truth isn't an opinion; truth is a person, and his name is Jesus. As we develop a personal relationship with Jesus, we discover the way to God and the truth of God that puts our entire existence into perspective.

As Christians, we are to be a people of the truth. Not just people who believe the truth, but we need to be people who are so indwelt with the presence of Jesus that it does not even occur to us to misrepresent ourselves or to tell a lie (see Ephesians 4:25).

Are you allowing Jesus and his truth to indwell you every moment of every day, or are you swept away by the lies of the world, the enemy, and yourself?

Jesus is the Life

Unless Jesus comes back first, we will all experience a physical death. Through Jesus, we need not fear death. But there are other deaths that we experience.

For some, hope seems to be dying. You've prayed, you've cried out, but there is no breakthrough.

Others feel like they are dying because of an addiction. You have given the enemy permission to steal your joy, kill your peace, and destroy your contentment.

There are some of you whose marriage seems like it's dying, or your once-close relationship with your child or parent. Satan has slowly eaten away at the relationship and now it is dying.

But Jesus came to give us life, and there is nothing that seems dead that he can't bring back to life (see 1 Peter 1:3). He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living. In him we can have life because he is the way, the truth, and the life.

In our churches today, unfortunately we have Christians who do not fully realize this life in Christ. The degree to which we as the church are fully alive in Christ determines our effectiveness of bringing life and salvation to our community.

When we are led by the Spirit, we will be truly alive and dead to our old life. As a result, our community will be changed for the glory of God.

Are you truly alive in Christ? Or are you going through life as one who is just getting by, numbed by the cares and entertainment of the world?

Thomas a Kempis writes, “*Without the way there is no going; without the truth there is no knowing; without the life there is no living.*” Unfortunately, many people make the mental decision to agree with the gospel message intellectually without experiencing true transformation. They may pray the prayer of salvation but then slip back into a condition of passivity.

Watchman Nee wrote, “*the difference between trusting and trying is the difference between heaven and hell.*”

As we close this series called Knowing Jesus, do you know Jesus?

He invites you into a personal relationship with himself that leads to abundant life (see John 10:10). He is the way, the truth, and the life.

Please contact me if you would like to know more about knowing Jesus.