

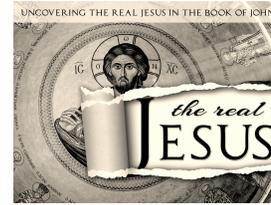
Community Group Questions:

1. Jesus died *with us*; he became human. Jesus died *instead of us*; as our representative and substitute. Lastly Jesus dies *for us* to bring us into a life with God.

What verse(s) here would fit the perspective of Jesus dying *for us* and why?

2. So the *way* isn't a path rather it's a person, therefore it's personal. How does the fact that our faith is a personal one with the Father change your outlook about Him and how you live, here and now?

3. *"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!"* John 14:9b
Think of the *"Story of the Prodigal Son"* (Luke 15:11-32) How would you imagine the outcome if Jesus was the *"older brother"* in that story?



"I am the way, the truth and the life."
John 14:4-11

And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵ "No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

⁷ If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!" ⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!

So why are you asking me to show him to you? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. ¹¹ Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do.

I. Jesus reveals the depth of his connection to the Father.

If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!" John 14:7

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. Colossians 1:15

For Christ is not only God-like, He is God in human flesh. Colossians 2:9

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. Hebrews 1:3

II. The Disciples reveal the difficulty of making that connection.

Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you?" John 14:9

And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. John 17:3

"Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me ..." Jeremiah 9:23,24

As long as you believe some things about Jesus you've gained something of value, but if belief in certain information were all that mattered in faith then you'd find the Devil himself in Heaven. Because he most assuredly believes in Jesus as the Son of God. But he is not committed. Alister Begg-Pastor

"My Lord and my God." -Thomas words John 20:28

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. John 14:6

Antonio Scalia, United States Supreme Court Justice

"God assumed from the beginning the wise of this world would view Christians as fools... and He has not been disappointed. Devout Christians, are destined to be regarded as fools in modern society. We must pray for courage to endure the scorn of the sophisticated world. Have the courage to have your wisdom regarded as stupidity and have the courage to suffer the contempt of the sophisticated world. Be fools for Christ.

III. The grand result of making the connection to the Father.

For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Mark 8:36

...small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. Matthew 7:14

Mistakenly, I think we've come to believe this (passage) is about restriction. The way is narrow, and so our choice then is not to focus on the narrow, the exclusiveness, rather to narrow our focus on the One. You see the gate that leads to life is not about restriction at all, it is about an entry into the expansive. There is a vastness in knowing you're a son or daughter worth having. We see our plentitude in God's own expansive view of us and we marinate in this."

Author Gregory Boyle "Tattoos on the Heart"

Behold I stand at the door and knock. Revelation 3:20

When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, Jeremiah 29:13

Everyone whom my Father gives me will come to me. I will never turn away anyone who comes to me, John 6:37