



A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of March 9, 2025

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

I Am the Way

John 14:1-14 (emphasis added)

¹“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 am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶**Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”** ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?” ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

- In verse 1, Jesus commands three things of the disciples. What are they?
- What connection might there be between our troubled heart and our belief?
- Jesus reveals that He will leave His disciples for a time and prepare a place for them (2-3). How might this have comforted the disciples? How does this bring hope to you?
- How does Jesus describe Himself in v. 6? Why is it significant that Jesus revealed this ‘I AM’ statement at the Last Supper?

“The Way” was one of the earliest names for the Christian faith ([Acts 9:2](#)), and [Ephesians 2:18](#) says that it is “through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.”

- In chapter 14, Jesus references His Father 22 times. What do vv.6-14 tell us about Jesus’ relationship with the Father?
- What do these verses tell us about our relationship with the Father?

“Jesus’ claims promise intimacy with God... I’m the only way, only way, to turn your relationship with God, if you’ve got one at all, from fear and uncertainty into absolute confidence, warmth, and love. I’m the only way.” –Tim Keller

This section opens and closes with Jesus’ admonition, “Let not your hearts be troubled (vv.1 & 27) at the Last Supper (right before he is betrayed and then killed). It is no wonder the disciples were anxious and grieved-- Jesus had just said that he would leave them ([John 13:33](#)). With such troubled hearts, Jesus comforts His disciples by making three powerful statements about Himself: **I am the Way, the Truth, the Life.**

- What is something in your life that easily gets in the way of having peace?
- What is one thing about Jesus that comforts you in those anxious moments?

In each description, Jesus does not simply teach the way or point the way; He is the Way. He is not one version of the truth; Jesus is the truth. And He is not a version of living; He is life itself. He deeply desires that we know Him, because only through Him can we know God as our Father. The word for “know” in verse 7 is not so much a knowledge of facts but rather a knowledge of deep relationship; believing in Jesus as our Savior and Lord gives us an intimate knowledge of our Father, and He intimately knows us, His children.

- How might knowing God be the balm for our troubled hearts?

It is humbling to trust and believe Jesus is the only way – we so often try to make our own ways to find peace and life in a broken world (our accomplishments, our relationships, indulging in things we think will satisfy-- see [Proverbs 14:12](#)). But Jesus, our Guide and Keeper, knowing our sin and our fears, promises the gift of Himself-- Hallelujah! What a Savior!

This coming week...

- **Consider a conflict or burden in your life where you are trying to make your own way to get peace or satisfaction– turn to Jesus and confess this to Him, receiving His grace and promise of life in Him alone.**
- **Recall a moment or season that felt dark (maybe you are in one now). How did Jesus meet you with His light? Did He provide a way out? A friend to walk alongside you? A word of comfort? Share with someone about that experience this week.**
- **Pray together in response to God's Word.**

*Everlasting God,
fountain of all life and the true home of every heart:
our hearts are restless until they rest in You.
Yet we confess that our hearts have been enslaved
by selfish passion and base desire.
We have sought after many things
and have neglected the one thing needful.
We have not loved you with our whole hearts;
help us to turn to you and find forgiveness.
Lead us home, that we may again find in You
our life and joy and peace. Amen.*

Stories from the Church: Jesus Reveals Himself

Each Sunday in Lent we will hear testimonies of how Jesus is faithfully revealing Himself to His people.



This week, we heard from Flannery Enneking-Norton in worship.

I was raised in a very loving, non-Christian home. From a young age, I felt a deep sense of inadequacy and insecurity. I needed to prove my worth and earn the love I was given—by getting perfect grades, being seen as a nice person, being a

good daughter and sister... The list goes on. A culture of self-love told me that I was awesome and lovable and worthy. But it rang hollow. On what basis? I knew that I was selfish, unkind, and judgmental. I knew my unlovableness, and it filled me with shame.

By the end of middle school, I had been dealing with pretty significant anxiety and depression. I was at the end of my rope, and I needed to believe in something larger than myself to make life meaningful. I was open to the idea of a God, but not the God of Christianity—yet. That all changed when I went to Catholic school for my first year of high school. (it was the most affordable school in my area!).

I had never opened the Bible before, and I don't know what I expected... But my parents had always told me that

the Bible was illogical and full of bigotry. So imagine my surprise when I began learning about the historical record of the Old Testament, the internal validity between the Old and New testaments, the fulfilled prophecies, and above all, the stories of Jesus Himself! The Word came alive to me, and I wanted more and more. Jesus showed me that He truly was the Way, the Truth, and the Life: the Gospel was the truest thing I had heard. It validated the sense of inadequacy I had always struggled with, but promised the deepest freedom and hope I could ever conceive of. He provided the way out of the striving and perfectionism I had built my identity on.

Jesus already knew I was a sinner, Jesus already knew I was imperfect. Jesus already knew my struggles, my fear, and my shame. I could not pretend to be better than I was, because He knew the core of my sin nature. Like the woman at the well, I can say: "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did!" But He didn't leave me dead in my trespasses. He did not condemn me. The Gospel promised that if I confessed my sins and acknowledged my need for a savior; looked to Jesus for the forgiveness of my sins, and put my faith in Him, that I would be saved. I am not only saved from the condemnation that I deserve; Jesus has given me His righteousness, which I *don't* deserve. I have freedom and eternal life through faith in Him.

I need to be reminded of the sweetness of this Gospel daily. I forget that I am still a sinner, saved by grace. I am tempted to pursue my own wants and needs, on my own terms. Sometimes I still find myself striving to prove retroactively that Jesus made a good choice dying for me... And I need Scripture and my faithful friends to remind me to rest in the finished work on the cross. I John 2:2 says "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." I invite anyone who is curious about this forgiveness in Christ to dig deeper. Reach out to a pastor or a friend. Even pull me aside! Jesus made a way for me, and He wants to make a way for you too. Thank you.

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Worship Study Guides during Lent 2025 are coordinated with the I AM Statements from the Gospel of John sermon series and the Lent 2025 Churchwide Devotional

