

Jesus, in His Own Words

The Way, Truth and Life

John 14:1-6

March 30, 2025

HDBC

If you knew that you were going to die within a few hours, you would get down to serious business. You would say those things that were most important to those whom you love. You would cut to the essentials. It would not be time for playing games or for dealing with superficial issues.

And so it was with Jesus. He too, got down to business on that last night before His death. And in the course of giving His final instructions to His disciples He made a bold statement. When we get to it in the text it will jump off the page as being something we must not ignore.

Read John 14:1-6

In verse six Jesus describes Himself as **the ultimate mediator**. One who stands between two others bringing them together. He uses **three words** to explain this role of mediator. Each one sheds great light.

1. The Way We use the word to communicate two things. Both relate.

A. Direction – Go this way, not that way. A sign with an arrow, If you want to go to Heaven, move toward Jesus. **Just as traffic sign will give you direction to enable you to get where you want to go**, so Jesus will do that. To get to Heaven, have eternal life, you must go toward Jesus, not away from Him.

There are multiple ways to get to most destinations. **Cemetery outside of Bono**. There are **multiple ways to get to China**. I've flown there twice and left Chicago in a different direction each time. You can get to China by going East or going West. Not so when it comes to being saved and going to Heaven. **18 times Gospels record Jesus saying to people, follow Me**. No other direction that will get you to Heaven.

B. Access

A sign can point you in the right direction, but it cannot give you access. Put sign next to MS river saying Mississippi pointing to the East, but that would not help you get there. Need bridge. Jesus is the bridge. I can point the way, **but only Jesus is the way.**

Robert Webber was traveling on a plane from San Francisco to Los Angeles a few years ago. He was sitting next to the window, reading a Christian book. The man next to him, asked, *Are you a religious man?* Well, yes, he said. *I am too, he responded.*

They began talking about religion. In the middle of the conversation Webber asked, ***Can you give me a one-liner that captures the essence of your faith?*** Yes, he said. ***We are all part of the problem, and we are all part of the solution.***

After a while Webber said, *Would you like a one-liner that captures the Christian faith?* Sure, he responded.

We are all part of the problem, but there is only one man who is the solution. His name is Jesus.

Jesus is the way!

He is also . . .

2. The Truth

Truth **is not derived from my own creative thinking.** Truth is not something that I conjure up in my mind through my own efforts. **Real truth is absolute** regardless of whether it is believed, embraced or even known. Jesus claimed to be the embodiment of that truth.

He is absolute truth, without error or falsehood. The world has tried to mix truth with error and has produced a society with no absolutes. Everything is relative. It is what you want it to be, even truth. Pseudo-truth.

Imagine if all communication had to be completely truthful. **Think about how it could impact marketing.**

Cereal box - plain grain, mostly sugar. No nutritional value, but it will taste good.

Fast Food – Our burger contains more calories and fat than you need in three days. It will fill your belly and clog your arteries, but you will enjoy it.

Or think about how this would impact business, education, politics, family conversations. **How does this dress make me look?**

We would have a difficult time always speaking truth but not being abrasive or hurtful. Not Jesus. He spoke truth, while communicating love and warmth. He spoke with perfect sincerity. What you see or hear is what you get. No deceit. **Jesus declared Himself to be *the truth*.**

You need to decide what you believe about Jesus. He either is the truth or He is not. You must decide what you believe. I have decided to take Jesus at His word and believe Him. **He is my source of right and wrong.** He is the trustworthy source of absolute truth. Everything I hear, read or experience must be examined in light of His Word and His life. When those come in conflict I will trust Him. How about you? Quite frankly some of you say you believe Him but don't live like it. **He is the way, He is the life, and He is . . .**

3. The Life

It means that which is **alive, has vigor, is animated. It speaks of genuine life, full life.** He did not just possess life, He **is** life. He is the author and sustainer of life. How can He make the claim?

He lived, died and lives again having totally disarmed the power of death. **You are alive physically because of the life passed on to you from your parents.** Life begets life. Spiritual life comes only through JESUS.

Not only is He the only source of spiritual life, but He is the source of meaningful life, satisfying life.

I can do all kinds of things to make my life meaningful and satisfying. I can get it all lined up in a way that will bring me all kinds of joy and happiness. Then some unexpected thing breaks in and spoils my little plans. And suddenly I lose that sense of peace and meaning. As I consider the pain and suffering I see all around me, I can struggle to make sense of it all.

I have a hard time making sense of a child who is killed, or of a plane that crashes, killing hundreds. I struggle with understanding how my 66-year-old uncle could drive onto the MS river bridge in Vicksburg and jump to his death, leaving a trail of unanswered and unanswerable questions for his wife, children and grandchildren. I don't understand why some people are habitually picked on. Try as I might, I can't make sense of this life and I certainly can't make it satisfying and meaningful. **But Jesus can!**

He has a unique way of taking the worst tragedies and bringing good out of them. He not only enables us to survive the hard knocks of life, but enables us to experience peace and joy and purpose. He brings hope and meaning and significance to life. **He is the life!**

Notice the last statement: ***No one comes to the Father but through me.*** He is the one mediator between God and men. **He is bridge to god.**

In June of 2006, Warren Buffet, the world's second-richest man at the time, announced that he would donate 85 percent of his \$44 billion fortune to five charitable foundations.

Commenting on this act of generosity, **Buffet said: *There is more than one way to get to heaven, and this is a great way.***

He may have been generous with his money but he was dead wrong with his theology. And he was dead wrong about how to get to Heaven.

What I am saying is offensive to some people. Some people just can't stomach the notion that there is only one way to Heaven. But Jesus is clear. He is the only way. There are no others. It is Jesus and only Jesus.

Many years ago, Tiger Woods was put on the spot during an exclusive golf outing for top business and entertainment executives.

30 people gathered for an event that included private golf lessons and lunch with Tiger. After lunch there was a Q&A session. Most asked golf questions.

However, one guest stood up and asked two questions: **Have you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior? And if not, would you?** A source present at the lunch later said: *'You could have heard a pin drop. People were mortified.* But Tiger seemed undisturbed and answered the question.

Tiger said: ***My father was a Christian—of course Christianity was part of my life. But my mother is Asian, and Buddhism was also part of my childhood. So I practice both faiths respectfully.***

As with Warren Buffet, his intention may have been good, but he could not be more wrong in his approach to a relationship with God or what it will mean after this life. Jesus was clear. There is only one way, and He is that way!

Takeaways: There are two.

1. We must believe & declare the uniqueness of Jesus

He stands uniquely apart from every other person who has ever been born. No other could make such an exclusive declaration. Notice that He claimed to be **the way, the truth, and the life**.

This statement was a personal claim to be the one and only Son of God and the one and only Savior of the world. No others could legitimately make this claim. He excludes all others.

2. **We must believe & declare the uniqueness of the way to salvation.**

Not only has the Christian church consistently declared the uniqueness of Jesus as the only son of God, it has declared the uniqueness of the way to be saved. He is the **only** way. There are no others.

We don't believe this because we have come to this decision on our own authority. We believe this because this is what Jesus has declared. And we believe **He is trustworthy because He has done everything He said He would do, including being resurrected from the dead.** We believe this because we believe He is who He said He was.

I agree with RC Sproul in his commentary on John. ***If we deny that He is the exclusive way to salvation, we deny Him.***

There may be no greater point of pressure coming from the culture around us than this one point. Our friends, our community, our intellectuals will call us bigoted, arrogant and narrow-minded. We must lovingly accept those attacks, while graciously standing firm on this one, unique **Rock of our Salvation**. We proclaim Jesus and only Jesus as the way to salvation.