

SERMON SERIES: This Is Us: Our Truth

SPEAKER: Jason Epperson

DATE: July 7, 2019



Key Line

Our truth is that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Introduction

What ways do people use to find answers to the questions and struggles in their lives?

- Share something you use to cope with difficult or stressful times.
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of your method of coping?

Seek the Word

Read John 13:31-14:4. Jesus had just entered the city triumphantly to celebrate the Passover with his disciples. He had just revealed that Judas would betray him. The disciples are beginning to realize that something bad was going to happen.

- He predicted that he was going to leave them soon. How do you think the disciples felt when they heard that?
- In 14:1-2, what did Jesus say he was going to do after he left them? (*Prepare a place for them.*)
- When the disciples asked how they would know where he was going so they could find him, what did Jesus answer(14:5-6)? (*He said that he was the way.*)
- What does that mean? (*We can find the way to God by following Jesus and going along with his plan for the world. We love him by loving those around us.*)
- Jason said that Jesus was completely inclusive politically and socially and exclusive that he was the only way. What does this mean? How is this different from the way that the Church as a whole often acts in the world today? (*We often want to exclude people who are different socially and politically and include things that aren't true.*)

Reread 13:34.

- What was his instruction to them about how to treat each other in 13:34-35? (*Love one another the way Jesus loved them.*)
- How will the rest of the world know we are followers of Christ? (*By the way we love others, especially those who do not know Jesus.*)

Talk About It

Often Christians feel the need to protect themselves from people in the world who do not believe in Jesus and do not live Christian lives. How does this relate to Jesus' instructions in the passages we read today?

In our divided society, how can we love one another and accept one another without compromising our own faith?

Who is Jesus leading you to love today?