

CAN I ASK THAT? | FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 14 | EASTER 3

THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE: "IS JESUS THE ONLY WAY?"

OPENING PRAYER

Jesus, you are our Savior. Thank you for teaching us the truth about our good works and that they cannot save us. We praise you for the free gift of salvation that comes through faith in Jesus alone. We are welcomed by our Abba Father because you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. In your saving name we pray, Amen.

CONNECTING QUESTION

Today, many people think any road leads to God, if followed sincerely or with a good heart. How would you respond to that?

SCRIPTURE READING

Read Aloud & Meditate on God's Word: 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 24:36-49

WATCH VIDEO

Video Presenter: Pastor Pete Woodward

EXPLORE THE TEXT

Invite the Holy Spirit to lead as you work through the questions in this guide. Cover what your time allows and encourage everyone to finish the guide on his or her own.

1. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4. What does God desire for everyone? For whom should we pray? (Also see 2 Peter 3:9.) From its beginning, Christianity has been criticized for accepting everyone into the fold, no matter who he or she is. Read Galatians 3:26-28. Who is included in Christ, and on what basis? What does this mean for you and for all Jesus followers?
2. "Sin had made a quarrel between us and God; Jesus Christ is the mediator who makes peace." (Matthew Henry) A mediator is a person who helps to settle a dispute or create agreement when there is conflict between people or groups. He or she acts as a go-between, which results in unity, harmony, or reconciliation. Read 1 Timothy 2:5-6. What does it mean to you that Christ is the mediator between God and man (you)?
3. Read Luke 24:36-49. How did Jesus prove to the disciples that he had risen from the dead? Why was it important for them to know it? Do you know of any other religious leaders who have risen from the dead?
4. Jesus fulfilled what the prophets had written about him. Luke 24:45 says he opened the disciples' minds so they could understand the scriptures. Like them, you are a witness of Jesus and who he is. How do people ultimately come to faith in Jesus? (Also see John 16:7-11; 1 Corinthians 2:2-5.)

5. What claims does Jesus make in John 14:6? What does Acts 4:12 say? "Jesus did not say he would show us a way; He said that he is the way. He did not promise to teach us a truth; he said that he is the truth. Jesus did not offer us the secrets to life; he said that he is the life." (Blue Letter Bible) Do you believe that he is the way, the truth, and the life? Explain why you do.

6. Martin Luther taught that the way to salvation is through sola gratia (grace alone), sola fide (faith alone), and by sola scriptura (scripture alone). What were his main points about God's saving grace from the following: John 3:16; Acts 16:29-34; Romans 1:16-17; Romans 3:23 and 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9?

KNOWING JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY

The remedy for doubt is to take a closer look at Jesus. Study his Word, study history and science, wrestle with Scriptures, and voice your questions in prayer. "Jesus invites you to lean in closer and express your doubts – it's the process that strengthens faith." (A Savior is Risen Devotional)

If you, your family, or friends have doubts, ask some historical questions: Why did Christianity emerge so rapidly, with such power? What would account for the hundreds of eyewitnesses to the resurrection who continued to proclaim Jesus, many of whom lost their lives for their belief? Search the scriptures using a concordance or other resources you have for additional information.

"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John 17:3)

SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY

Isaiah 43:10; Colossians 1:15-20; Titus 2:11; Hebrews 9:15;

CLOSING PRAYER

God our Savior, you long for everyone to embrace your life and return to the full knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:4 TPT)
Holy Spirit, please reveal to us and to all people that Jesus is the ONLY Way to a relationship with you and eternal life. We pray for your truth and word to go forth in power! In the one and only name of Jesus we pray, Amen!

Our Father...

Scan to Access LG videos

