



## HomeGroup Discussion Questions

Week 7: Feb 13th-19th

*“There are many paths. Choose one that works for you.”* This is the attitude of our day. Absolute and exclusive claims are out. Pluralism is in; that is, there are many possible paths that lead to the same point. Challenge it, and you’re likely to be charged as intolerant or closed-minded. Jesus apparently wasn’t concerned, then, of how offensive it would be to our ears to hear the claim, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

Main Texts: John 14:1-11

### CONNECT

1. Have you ever been lost and didn’t know the way to go? If so, what happened?
2. What did you find most significant in this week’s sermon? What questions did it leave in your mind?

### LEARN

3. Why do you think Jesus says, “Let not your hearts be troubled” in John 14:1? Why would the disciples have been troubled in that moment? What was going on just prior to this?
4. Jesus describes a future where His disciples will be in His “Father’s house,” with the purpose being that “where I am you may be also” (vv. 2-3). What does this reveal about God’s mission or plan for all of history?
5. John 14:6 is one of the most significant stand-alone statements in all of Scripture, but it’s also a direct response Jesus makes to Thomas’s question in verse 5. What do you think Jesus means in verse 6, given the question just before it?
6. How would you summarize the claim Jesus is making in verses 9-11?

### APPLY

7. Jesus takes the initiative “to prepare a place for” His followers.<sup>1</sup> Then, He also provides the way to it. What difference does it make that Jesus *is* the way versus merely *showing* us the way?

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<sup>1</sup> Older translations, like the King James Version, used the word “mansion,” rather than “room.” Commentator Gary Burge explains that the word, “was a seventeenth-century expression for modest dwellings; thus, 14:2 should not build a picture for us of heavenly palatial residences.”

8. Jesus is making exclusive claims in these verses! How can we lovingly and truthfully explain these to people around us who may believe there are many paths to the same destination?

9. What differences can you think of between Christian faith and the exclusive claims of other religions or the beliefs of people you know? Is Christianity the only “system” to make exclusive claims?

10. What’s troubling you these days (see 14:1)? What comfort, if any, are you able to draw from knowing Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life?

#### GOING DEEPER (a.k.a., Extra Credit!)

One of Calvary’s shaping values is what we call, *Confident Witness*, which can be explained by the phrase, “We communicate in word and deed that salvation is found in Christ alone.”

A barrier to confident witness can be the exclusive nature of “Christ alone”! We might hear opposing voices in our head protest, “How arrogant!” or “How exclusive!”

Ultimately, any claim either in favor or in opposition to Jesus is a truth claim and is exclusive. As a group, think through these statements:

- “Christianity can’t be the only way to God!”
- “We simply can’t know what’s true!”

Are these statements exclusive? If so, how? Are they open to the same charge of being equally “arrogant” as claims about “Christ alone”? Why or why not?

Take time to pray together as a group, asking for the Holy Spirit to give you confidence to lovingly engage with others about the gospel. Ask specifically for confidence—and clear thinking—about Jesus’ exclusive, yet also beautifully inclusive (i.e., available to all by faith) claims.