



spiritual infant

DISCIPLE ME

THE ONE ABOUT JESUS BEING “THE WAY”

READ: LOST IN THE JUNGLE

The pilot of a military plane was forced to parachute into a jungle in Southeast Asia. When he landed, he was totally lost and was wondering how he could find his way out of the jungle. He was surrounded by the thick limbs and huge leaves; he was literally in a sea of green trees, bushes, and shrubbery.

Shocked, a local man saw the plane crashing into the jungle and witnessed the pilot's parachute ejecting from the plane. He ran as fast as he could to the area where he believed the pilot had landed. To get there, he had to slash through the tangled underbrush of limbs and branches and bushes. When the pilot saw the man, he cried out to him, "Where is the road?" Where is the way out of this jungle?"

The man shouted back, "There is no road in this jungle! There is no road out!" But then he pulled out his machete and said, "I am the way out! Follow me!"

DISCUSS:

- How would you describe the feeling of being lost? Share about a time you got lost.
- How do you go about getting to a destination you've never been before?
- What would you do if you were trying to reach a destination and you hit a roadblock, and you were unable to use your phone or any GPS to help you find a new way?

STUDY: JOHN 14:1-12

In the passage we will explore today, Jesus is trying to prepare His closest friends and followers for the reality that He won't be with them forever.

Read John 14:1-4

He also wants to reassure them that although He will be leaving, they do not need to be troubled because He will come back for them. This information wasn't something they could fully comprehend. So, Thomas and the others questioned what Jesus meant by these words.

Read John 14:5-6

- What does Jesus say is “the way” to the Father or being reconnected to God?
- Why might this teaching be hard for some people?

This statement from Jesus is huge. And it’s worth exploring. When you read about the life and ministry of Jesus, one of the things that jumps off every page is how inclusive He was. Throughout the New Testament, He was the only person welcoming foreigners, outcasts, sinners, and those on the margins of society. He even spent considerable time and effort trying to help His enemies change their ways and join Him in building God’s Kingdom.

In a culture like ours that values inclusivity over exclusivity, Jesus’ worldview is largely loved and applauded. But the place where many people draw a hard line with Jesus is when He claimed to be “THE WAY.” For many people, they believe that there are many ways to God and even many interpretations of what “god” might be. They love what Jesus does and stands for, but they can’t get behind what He says in John 14:6. This claim is a dagger to the heart of those who think there are many paths to God.

- Why do you think people want many paths or options to God?

Read John 14:7-11

- Based on Jesus’ interaction with Philip, how does Jesus say they have seen God?
- Taking a closer look at verses 10 & 11, what is the thing that Jesus wants Phillip to do?

Read John 14:12

- What does Jesus say will happen for those who believe that He is “The Way”?
- Do you think it’s possible for someone to do even greater things than Jesus did during His ministry?
- If Jesus is the only way for people to reconnect with God, what does that mean for you and the people in your life?

CHALLENGE: FROM MEMORY

- This week, set aside time each day to read John 14:6. Commit Jesus’ words to your mind. Memorize them and recite them to your Discipleship Partner(s) each time you see them this week.