

August 26, 2018
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
Stuff Jesus Said: Episode 4 – Jesus is the Way to the Father
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John 14:5-14

⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."⁹ Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Thomas is asking one of the most common questions known in spirituality. "How do we get to where we are going?"

- **Question:** Where are you going?
 - Jesus responds by saying that there is only one ultimate destination, knowing God as Father.
 - **Vs. 12b** "I am going to the Father."
 - Jesus also says that He is the only passage you can traverse to reach that destination.
 - **Vs. 6b** "No one comes to the Father except through Me."
 - This statement alone makes Jesus the ultimate stumbling block

For Jesus, relationship is the destination.

- When we make life about a destination other than relationship with our Father, we set ourselves up for a life of disappointment.
 - Purpose outside of living completely for the glory of God as Father is a "works based merit system" that promises you worth and contentment if you can only find and maintain it.
- Imagine if Jesus made His entire spiritual and emotional satisfaction based on His personal purpose?

It's possible to walk with Jesus for years, even decades, and miss the entire point.

Vs. 8-10a Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." ⁹ Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me?"

- Scripture is full of stories of people being in the very presence of God and not knowing it.

Food for the journey: Use these questions to go deeper in one of our small group communities or in personal reflection. ***NEW FALL SMALL GROUPS BEGIN SEPT. 23**

1. How often do you consider if you are on the right path in life?
2. What determines if your destination is really worthy of a life in pursuit of that end goal?
3. Jesus says that "I am the way, the truth and the life and that no one comes unto the Father except through me." Do you believe this or do you think that there are other ways to eternal life?
4. Jesus makes it clear that relationship is the destination. What is so important about that concept?
5. What do you think of the statement: Purpose outside of living completely for the glory of God as Father is a works based merit system that promises you worth and contentment if you can only find and maintain it.