

Sermon Growth Guide

October 1, 2023

Unbound - The Way Home

John 14:1-7

Key Verse: John 14:6

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Big Idea: God has provided the Way home through His Son, Jesus Christ.



Foundations

God created us to live in a perfect and holy relationship with Him. To reside with God in our spiritual home was God's plan and design, but human sinfulness corrupted and strained that plan to where humanity needed a Savior who would pay the debt of our sin and reconcile us to God.

God's people had expected a Savior to come in the form of the Messiah. This Messiah was to establish God's rule over the earth and free Israel from oppression and captivity.

For three years, Jesus focused His ministry on teaching His disciples and others the values and ethics of God's kingdom, including God's plan of redemption and salvation. Many people wondered if Jesus was the long-expected Messiah but were somewhat confused because Jesus didn't exactly fit the mold of their expectations. Instead of military and political strength, Jesus lived a life of humility, service, compassion and love.

As the arrest, torture and death of Jesus approached, He began to teach His disciples about what to expect and how to move forward in carrying out His mission. This disturbed and confused the disciples greatly. They had left everything to follow Him, and now He was declaring that He would soon be taken from them.

In the midst of their confusion, Jesus offered the words, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me." And then He spoke to their home, a home that had been prepared for them by God, and a home that could be entered through one Door only.

Affirming His deity with one of several "I AM" statements (Exodus 3:14), Jesus declared, "I am

the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

If we want to enter our eternal and spiritual home, Jesus is ***The Way Home!***

Understanding God's Word

Read John chapter 13 to familiarize yourself with the events that led to today's passage from John 14:1-7. What strikes you about the things Jesus said to His disciples in John 13? If you were sitting in that room, what emotions might you have felt as Jesus was speaking? Now, as you read John 14:1-7, what do you notice about the tone and content of Jesus' words? What questions come to mind as you read "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Applying God's Word

What does it mean to you that Jesus is the *Way* and the *Truth* and the *Life*? Did you notice that Jesus didn't say *a* Way, *a* Truth, and *a* Life? That Jesus said *the* instead of *a* reveals the wonder of God's plan of salvation according to God's sovereign plan. In what ways does this plan give you comfort and peace?

Witnessing God's Word

One of the challenges Christians face in today's culture and world is that people can be offended by the idea that there is only one way to salvation and eternal life. How can you speak the truth of scripture in a loving and winsome way and invite others to join you in ***The Way Home!***