

Saturday

Please read 2 Timothy 3:16–17 in preparation for this weekend's topic. What does this tell you about the Bible?

Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that as we talk about the Bible, God will fill people with hope and encouragement as study about the Bible.

F.A.Q.

Is Jesus The Way or A Way?

APRIL 21 & 22, 2012 • MARK SPURLOCK

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." *John 14:6*

Commonly held opinions...

"It's arrogant to assume your religion is true and others aren't."

"Religion breeds intolerance."

"All major religions basically teach the same thing."

In reality, all faiths make _____

What is so unique about Jesus?

Jesus claimed heaven is _____

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.**" *John 14:1–3*

Jesus claimed he is _____

You know the way to the place where I am going. Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." *John 14:4–6*

Jesus claimed _____

"If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." 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?'" *John 14:7–9*



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What is so unique about Christianity?

Heaven is about _____ not _____

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. . . And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. . . And He who sits on the throne said, **“Behold, I am making all things new.”** Revelation 21:1,3,5

Salvation is _____ not _____

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8–9

God _____ not just a _____

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:9–10

Bottom line: It’s _____ not just _____

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” **“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”** Matthew 16:13–15

Additional Resources

The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism Timothy Keller, Riverhead Books, 2008.

The Risen Jesus & Future Hope Gary Habermas, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2003.

That’s Just Your Interpretation Paul Copan, Baker Books, 2001.

“Why Believe in Jesus of the Bible?” Message by Mark Spurlock, April 15, 2007. www.tlc.org/sermons/942

“Who Is Jesus?” Message by René Schlaepfer, May 7, 2006. www.tlc.org/sermons/942

Daily Meditations

Monday

Read John 14:1–11. What is the key thing you learned in last weekend’s sermon?

In what way have you struggled with the question of Jesus being the only way?

How did last weekend’s sermon help you with that question?

Thank God today for the opportunity to find answers to your questions. Pray that as you study about Jesus this week you’ll grow both in knowledge and love of Him.

Tuesday

Read Hebrews 4:14–16. What do these verses tell you about who Jesus is?

What does it mean to you that Jesus has gone through the problems and temptations you face?

In what area of your life do you need to approach Jesus and ask for mercy and grace?

Thank God today for sending Jesus to live life on this planet. Thank Him for understanding your struggles and not leaving you alone. Talk to God about the struggles you are facing and ask for His peace and wisdom.

Wednesday

Please read 1 John 4:9–10, Ephesians 2:8–9 and Revelation 21:1–5. Look back over your notes about the uniqueness of Christianity. How have these impacted you?

How do these three passages encourage your faith today?

Who in your life could you encourage with the truth of these scriptures?

Thank God that He gives reasons for faith. Ask Him to increase your faith! Ask God to give you opportunities to share your faith with others. Pray that you’ll be an encouragement today!

Thursday

Read John 17:1–5. How do these verses describe Jesus? How is His deity emphasized?

How does Jesus describe His purpose on earth in these verses?

What do these verses teach about God’s love for you? In what area of your life do you particularly need to sense God’s love right now?

Thank God today for His love. Thank Him for the Bible and the opportunity you have to learn and grow from studying it. Ask God to grow your faith and understanding. Pray that you will be gracious when you talk about your faith and that your attitude will draw people to Jesus.

Friday

Read Philippians 2:5–11. How do these verses help explain the nature of Jesus as God and man?

Paul says in verse 5 that our attitudes should also be the same as that of Christ Jesus when he left heaven and became human. In what way?

How can you do this today? This week?

Thank Jesus that He was willing to do all this for you! Ask God to show you ways you can have the same attitude.



For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. 1 Corinthians 15:3–5