



## Sermon Discussion Guide

### Way, Truth, Life - Tim Knipp

11.27.2020

#### Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!

#### Tip of the week

Leaders: have you thought of any special ways to share anticipation and cheer with your group leading up to Christmas? Feel free to share your ideas on the HC small group leader facebook group! A few ideas we have heard are: 1. A baking competition over Zoom. Whoever wins must set the cookies/ treats out on their porch for everyone else to do a contactless pickup! 2. Secret Santa/ secret encouragement partners for the month of December.



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#### Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion.
- 1. Have you ever been completely lost? Share the story!
- 2. Take a moment to review the different I am statements from this fall; is there one that you feel Jesus has specifically spoken to you most clearly? Share about how that has been meaningful for you.
  - a. Before Abraham was, I am.
  - b. I am the bread of life.
  - c. I am the light of the world.
  - d. I am the gate.
  - e. I am the good shepherd.
  - f. I am the resurrection and the life.
  - g. I am the vine.
  - h. I am the way, the truth, and the life.

#### Book - John 14:1-7

- Read the scripture, and discuss a few questions to understand **what the text is saying**.
- 2. What tone do you imagine Jesus speaking with in this section? In your opinion is he correcting, rebuking, encouraging, comforting, or something else?
- 3. Have a few people can take a stab at summarizing this section in one sentence based on the problem (v5) and the solution (v1-4, v6-7)

#### Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- 4. In a way, Thomas's question is everyone's question. Where have you seen examples of his question out in the real world? (How are we supposed to know the way to God?)



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5. Think of the massive relief that comes from getting un-lost/found/rescued. Do you feel that same sense of relief and comfort from Jesus' simple but profound statement that he is the way, the truth, and the life? Please share!

#### Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
6. Take a minute to ask Jesus to bring someone to mind who needs to experience the comfort of knowing that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. Pray for them! Ask Jesus how you or your group can be involved in bringing that comfort and then obey whatever you hear from him!

#### Time of Prayer