

BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL

May 7, 2023 • 5th Sunday of Easter • John 14:1-12

Jesus Is the Way

John's Gospel is very different from the other three Gospels. For example, at the Last Supper John tells us nothing about the blessed bread and wine. Instead, he talks about the washing of the feet, an incident not reported by the other Gospel writers. John also gives us the prayers and long discourse said by Jesus at the Last Supper.

This is one of my favorite Scripture passages from John's Gospel. It is a powerful summation of all that Jesus is. Each word holds so much meaning and significance. Consider the statement, "Jesus is the Way."

Jesus is the Way to find out who God is. Jesus was God in person. When he spoke and acted, it was God speaking and acting. If you want to find out about God, find out about Jesus.

Jesus is the Way to the kingdom. The kingdom is not just something in the future. It has been with us since the beginning of time, most decisively in the person of Jesus. The kingdom is also now, wherever we see someone acting in Jesus' healing love, offering reconciliation, or working for peace and justice.

Jesus is the Way to all that is true and all that gives life. Make Jesus a reality for your children. Let them hear you talk about him as if he were a member of your family. Let them know that he is their champion and that his love for them will never end. But also make sure they understand that they share Jesus' mission and they are called to champion others. They are asked to share Jesus' love in very practical ways with everyone they encounter, especial-

ly those most in need. Help them understand that they are called to be the way for others—the way to find the kingdom, the way for others to find out who God is.

Jesus is the Way maker. Let our children know that with Jesus' help, no matter the obstacles, nothing can stop them from finding his love and sharing that love with others.

FAMILY RESPONSE

As you gather around the dinner table to share a special meal, read the words from John 14:6. Ask each family member to finish this sentence: "Jesus is the Way because...."

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Finish the following sentence for yourself. Jesus is the Way for me because... What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?