

Life on a One Way Street

Is there only one way to God? _____

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

I. JESUS is the  to God.

Acts 4:8-12 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! (9) If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, (10) then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. (11) He is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone." (12) Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

II. Are all religions the same? YES and NO.

1Corinthians 10:18-22 Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? (19) Do I mean then that a sacrifice offered to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? (20) No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. (21) You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. (22) Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

- Religion is a human attempt to get to God by JUSTIFICATION through their own efforts.

Romans 3:10-12 As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; (11) there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. (12) All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

- Christianity however says GOD came to us.

(Joh 1:14) The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

III. Christianity is not about our religion but God's RELATIONSHIP.

John 3:17-18 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (18) Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.



IV. All HUMAN religion is a _____ street.

John 3:18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.



Act 2:36-38 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." (37) When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" (38) Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (39) The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."



"Why?" is the question that humanity longs to understand.

- Why am I here?
- Why does evil exist?
- Why do bad things happen to good people?
- Why do I feel so empty?

"Why?" is the first question every child asks. Built within our nature is an insatiable longing to know "Why?" "Something is terribly wrong and we don't know "Why?" The question is answered in the word itself.

WHY? – Gospel Presentation

W - WE were created in God's image to share His life and show His greatness, but our selfishness and sin forfeited that purpose and deserve eternal death.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 ESV

For the wages of sin is death. Romans 6:23 ESV

H - HE chose to offer His life to us through Jesus' death and resurrection, offering us forgiveness of sin and abundant life now and forever.

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us....For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Romans 5:8,10 ESV

Y - YOU can choose life over death by turning from your sin, trusting Jesus as your Savior and confessing Him as the source and Lord of your new life.

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9 ESV

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4 ESV

W - **WE** forfeited God's life through sin.

H - **HE** restores His life through Jesus.

Y - **YOU** must choose between death and life.

? - *What will you choose?*

Congregational Prayer Points

- **Deaconess Ministry**
 1. Pray for wisdom and discernment to select God's choices to serve this congregation as Deaconesses.
 2. Pray for direction to know how to best focus this vital ministry to meet the needs of our people.

- **Family Ministries**
 1. Pray for God's direction concerning the possibility of developing a full time Family Ministry Associate position to serve Children's, Student's and Family ministries.
 2. Pray for the finances to support such a position if this is God's will.
 3. Pray for God to direct us to His choice in His time for such a position.

- **Outdoor Worship Area**
 1. Pray that God will be glorified even more through the use of the Outdoor Worship Area and trails on the property.
 2. Pray for discernment and unity in the use and design of the Outdoor Worship Area.
 3. Pray for favor with the county and our neighbors in developing the property.
 4. Pray that we will be able to reach more people for Christ through the use of our property and facilities than ever before.

- **Finances & Mission**
 1. Pray that we as a people will fully own and support the mission and ministries of First Baptist Church.
 2. Pray that the faithful giving of our people will make up and exceed the shortfall in our budget making new ministries possible.
 3. Pray that God will allow us to have a greater impact in reaching our neighbors and the nations for Christ.