

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Why is Jesus relevant today? Look around at our world and you'll see news reports informing us daily of chaos and disorder, mistruths running rampant across the media. People, culture, society promise life and truth according to various means, but no one can agree on what those means actually are.

Jesus alone makes a definitive claim that He is *the* way, *the* truth, and *the* life. (Jn. 14:6) That in Him is the way to the Father, that no one comes to the Father except through Him. That should be enough to give us pause and compel us to consider His words, as we reflect on why Jesus is relevant today.

The truth is that Jesus alone is the way. Because He alone laid down His life for us on the cross, and was resurrected and glorified by the Father for it, He alone defeated sin and made a way for us to eternal life. The Book of Revelation tells us that Jesus alone is worthy (5:1-5). He is the Lamb who was slain (v.9-10), the Lion of Judah who conquered.

Jesus is the truth. It's a weighty claim to make, but Jesus is truth itself. He's not just a teacher of truth, but is Himself the perfect revelation of God. When God the Son descended from heaven to earth, He became a person, both fully man and yet fully God. Anyone who has seen Him has also seen the Father. (Jn. 14:9) Jesus alone is the truth that fully reveals God, and without Jesus, there can be no way and no truth for us to get to know God.

Lastly, Jesus is the life. We were created for spiritual life, for relationship with God—but without Jesus, sin left us spiritually dead and unable to have relationship with Him. Jesus alone rose from and conquered death. He alone bestows the gift of the Holy Spirit, which raises us from spiritual death to life.

So, church—have you, and will you come to Jesus today?

QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE:

Consider the context of this week's passage: it is the Last Supper, the final moments before Jesus' death. (Jn. 13:1) Jesus has just told the Twelve that one of them would betray Him (v.21). He has also foretold Peter's threefold denial of Him. (v.38)

Yet Jesus tells them that He is going to prepare a place for them, that even as they face the prospect of His death, all hope is not lost. How does this bring comfort to you as you contemplate our current earthly situation? How is Jesus relevant to it all?

QUESTION TWO:

Jesus makes quite a large number of claims here, starting with His usage of the definite article "the", as He describes Himself as *the* way, *the* truth, and *the* life. (14:6a) He also says that "no one comes to the Father except through me." (v.6b)

How do you make sense of this claim, especially in our pluralistic society? How would you respond to someone who believes there are multiple ways to achieve eternal life, and how would you point them back towards Jesus?

QUESTION THREE:

It can be hard for us to accept that Jesus is *the* way, *the* truth, and *the* life. Our hearts are constantly yearning for something else, and we find it difficult to fully submit to God the way He wants us to.

Take a moment to reflect in prayer, and to ask God why it is difficult for you to believe that Jesus is the only way, the only truth, and the only life. As you surrender your difficulties to Him, ask Him too if there are people in your life who are also struggling with the exclusivity of Jesus' claims, and how you can point them towards Him.