



Thank you for downloading the  
**CQ Rewind - Summary Only Version!**

Each week, the **Summary Only** version provides you with approximately 4 pages of brief excerpts from the program, along with Scripture citations.

If you would like to receive the **CQ Rewind FULL EDITION** at no charge, simply sign up at [www.ChristianQuestions.com](http://www.ChristianQuestions.com).

The **FULL EDITION** of approximately 10-12 pages includes comprehensive excerpts from the program, fully quoted Scriptures, graphics, illustrations, and even extra study points that time prevented us from covering during the live program.



## How is Jesus *The Way*?

**John 14:6:** (NASB) *Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through me.*



On the night before his crucifixion and literally hours before he would begin a sleepless ordeal of beatings, humiliation and accusation, Jesus took his precious time to give comfort to his truest followers. He spoke of what would happen, of God's care for them and of His love and devotion to them. He taught them to serve, be humble and to live with joy. Jesus also told them how to be faithful and let them know that he - Jesus - was the key to it all. Jesus said that he is the way. What did he mean by that?

This is the first of a three-part series on this text. Why? Because if we can grasp how Jesus IS the way, the truth and the life then we can truly grasp how to find and follow "the way," how to understand and apply "the truth" and therefore how to step into and live "the life"!

Let's look at the theme text context: Judas had just been revealed as the betrayer. Perhaps in these precious moments of teaching, Jesus showed us a little bit about the way, the truth and the life.

**John 13:30-38:** The betrayal would bring persecution and death - sacrificial death would bring God's glory! Judas leaving the room started a chain of events that would create the momentum leading to the crucifixion and he knew it. This was such a little thing but Jesus saw the betrayal in the big picture - as a path to God's glory.

Jesus prepared them for a separation from him (there would be growth through difficulty) and he gave them a new commandment to love one another. This is how they could be like Jesus and this is "the way" for us. He was "the way" by paving the path to God's glory through suffering and persecution, and by giving us this new commandment to love one another. We could see this commandment in his life.

<sup>36</sup>Simon Peter said to him, Lord, where are you going? Jesus answered, where I go, you cannot follow me now; but you will follow later. <sup>37</sup>Peter said to him, Lord, why can I not follow you right now? I will lay down my life for you. <sup>38</sup>Jesus answered, will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny me three times.

**John 14:1:** (NASB) *Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me.*

It makes sense that Jesus would comfort Peter after revealing he would deny Jesus. (Remember the chapter divisions were not in the original text.)

Jesus knows the truth of our faults and how God's truth is still accomplished with those faults. The error in judgment on Peter's part would become the stepping stone of his becoming a strong example for the early Christian church. Jesus needed to take that error and build upon it something much stronger.

Peter is such a great example for us. When we make mistakes, it should also help us to grow stronger in the Lord. Peter is so easy to relate to! He made many obvious mistakes.

Jesus understands the truth of our lives. He can prophetically look at God's plan and see how things will work out for us and ultimately the good of mankind.

**John 14:2-6:** Our life now is to prepare for the life that Jesus is preparing for us later.

Jesus said, "You know more than you think you know - learn these details so you can live a life that is pleasing to God!"

### HE IS THE WAY TO WHERE?

**The way to eternal life:** **John 14:1-2:** This is the ultimate end result of the way.

**The way to a life of faith:** **Mark 9:20-24:** Faith has to define our everyday life. Learning the life of faith is not just a statement or a feeling in the moment. A life of faith can be OUR way or it can be THE Way - we just need to be sure as to where our faith finds its foundation.

Everybody leads a life of faith regardless of religion. We have faith in the things around us, faith in what we pursue, faith that what we are doing is better than what we are not doing, and so on. Drug addicts have faith the drug will take away their pain for the moment. People

The Way

The Truth

The Life



put their trust in education and money. What do we put our trust in? Can we elevate our trust to something eternal - a life in Jesus?

**The way to a place of nourishment and peace:** John 10:7-10: *All who came before me are thieves and robbers* - the scribes and Pharisees who had a responsibility they did not fulfill.

*I am the door* - the shepherd of the sheep would literally sit in the doorway of the sheepfold to guard them. The scribes and Pharisees were supposed to be the guardians of the fold but were not. Jesus is our protection. He is the door and the way. This should bring us peace and nourishment.

Everyone wants to know where they can go for their security - for many the destination is actually a dead end.

**The way to a life of courage:** Matthew 10:24-31: Jesus is telling us, "Get yourself ready because the path you are going to walk on is the one I already walked. It won't be an easy path. They already accused me of being the father of devils and other heinous things. If they are going to accuse me, you can be sure you are next. Be ready! This is going to happen. Do not fear them!"

That is difficult because we cannot always stop fear from welling up, but we can control what we do when that happens.

Our courage is founded in the fact of Almighty and eternal care for our wellbeing.

#### WHY THE WAY?

**The first and most basic why - sin was not erasable by any other method other than perfect justice:** Hebrews 10:1-4: The people could atone for sins for the next year, but they could not have them erased. The sacrifices temporarily "bought them time" to keep them in relationship with God.

Hebrews 10:9-10: The one offering of Jesus paid the price to eradicate all sin in the future. The perfect man (Jesus) gave his life for the perfect man (Adam) - justice was satisfied.

The Old Law merely covered over sin through sacrifices; Jesus bought us from sin by his sacrifice. This is how Jesus is The Way. That was the only way to get rid of sin.

**We each must find our own "why" for following The Way even as it exposes our sinful self:**

Luke 5:3-4: Jesus is in the process of drawing his Apostles and this is the third time Jesus suggested Peter follow him. Perhaps there is a deeper meaning spoken here by Jesus? He was going to show Peter a picture of what Peter's life would soon look like as a *fisher of men*.

Luke 5:5-11: Imagine the bewilderment as they called for help - this was impossible! This was a message!

**Now the message of The Way and Peter's "why" becomes clear:** <sup>8</sup>*But when Simon Peter saw that, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man, O Lord...And Jesus said to Simon, do not fear, from now on you will be catching men. <sup>11</sup>When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.*

*Go away from me, Lord* - Jesus' mere presence exposed Peter's sinful reality.

This time they left everything they had and followed Jesus.

Another personal WHY regarding the necessity for The Way:

**The context here is Jesus "thinning the crowd" by speaking to them in difficult terms:**

John 6:66-69: The crowd did not realize he was speaking symbolically when talking about *eating his body and drinking his blood*.

His true followers realized there was no other place to go! *Who else has the words of eternal life?* In a small beginning, they began to see The Way.

Is your life empty without The Way of Jesus? That is the way we should be looking at our Christian lives.



## HOW DO WE GET THERE?

**The Way is a narrow one:** Matthew 7:12-14: We get there by setting our hearts and minds with great intention upon the difficult path.

We follow The Way by humbly realizing who we are, what we have done and moving forward. How do we leave the stuff in our lives behind?

**Fortunately, the Apostle Paul gives us step-by-step instructions!**

Philippians 3:7-14: How do we get there? We weigh the value of our life before truly knowing Christ against the value of our life IN Christ. (Hint: There is no comparison!) <sup>9</sup>*and may be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that, which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, We accept the fact that whatever was, however good or accomplished it was, is of no comparison to the purity and loftiness of righteousness found in Christ! <sup>10</sup>*that I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death; <sup>11</sup>in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. We resolve to conform to Christ in his suffering - even though we are weak and laden with sin, we are resolved because we have been called to do so. <sup>13</sup>*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: **forgetting what lies behind** and reaching forward to what lies ahead, We release the chains of our past, for how can we truly reach forward to what lies ahead if our hands are bound up in holding and bound up in carrying past failures or even past victories? All things are new! <sup>14</sup>press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. We pursue with single-minded focus and energy the goal of the call of Christ! This process gives a whole new meaning to the saying "let go and let God." This process brings us from "what we were" to "what we can be."***

## WHO IS IT FOR?

Acts 4:12: Salvation can only come through Jesus. He is the centerpiece to eradicate sin. There is no other name, way, religion, process, thought pattern, imagination - nothing else can do it except the name of Jesus for everybody.

**If that is true, how does this fit in?** Mark 4:10-12: If the name of Jesus is everything to everybody, why did Jesus himself say he did not want everyone to know about it?! How does that make sense?

If Jesus is The Way in your life, how are you living The Way between Sundays?

So why did Jesus not want everyone to understand what he was saying? 1 Peter 2:9-12: Notice how all of these descriptions are for just a specific group, but this group has a job of being a priesthood. Having a priesthood implies there are others to minister to. *Proclaiming Him* - implies an audience. Is this *royal priesthood* designated for the here and now or is there a bigger picture?

This is all present behavior...things we are supposed to be doing now - *receive mercy, abstain from fleshly lusts, keep your behavior excellent.*

*...so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.*

When do they slander? Now! When do they glorify God? Later! We are to do the right things - follow in The Way - now. The rest of the world, later, will glorify God in the future. They do not HAVE to hear the word now. They are NOT lost for all eternity. They WILL glorify God in the day of visitation. (Day of Judgment) Many other Scriptures verify this.

Romans 8:18-21: (NASB) *For the anxious longing of the creation (the rest of the world of mankind) waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. (the followers of Jesus)*

There is a difference between the two groups. One is waiting for the revealing of the other.

*For the creation was subject to futility* - there is no more futile way to live than to try to solve all of the world's problems in a sinful state.



*Not willingly* - not because they wanted to be; God put them there. Why? Because there was more to it and included hope.

*In hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery* - they will eventually see the name of Jesus. They will be set free into the same freedom in Christ the true followers have now. The name of Jesus is for EVERYONE...just not for all yet. There is more to the plan of God. The Way is for the true Christian now but its effect will spread to all of mankind!

**Here is the privilege of following Christ - it is the privilege of being one of the called:** John 15:1-5: Who is it for? The true followers now and the rest of the world later.

#### **WHEN IS THE WAY AN OPEN DOOR?**

**Now...right now!** 1 John 3:1-3: To be a child of God in the future you must live as a child of God right now. Do I live life MY WAY with a little bit of The Way sprinkled in for flavor?

Every human being has the opportunity to have Jesus be The Way, but the opportunity for most is not right now. Some come through the life of sacrifice now but the vast majority of humanity will walk up what Isaiah calls *the highway of holiness*. They receive the opportunity to come to Christ in an earthly way, not a spiritual way, following the righteousness of God and not following man.

For us now, being in The Way means seeing things differently because we have already been reconciled to God. So often Christianity misses this important point. We must MAINTAIN the reconciliation by living the life. We cannot fool God. He sees our every day. He sees our thoughts. We need to embrace that in living a reconciled life.

2 Corinthians 5:16-19: Because we are reconciled, we can learn to become *ministers of reconciliation* for others in the kingdom. That will be the job of the priesthood in the future - to bless all of the families of the earth. Our job now is to live The Way 24/7, not just on Sundays. If you are truly a follower of Jesus, you are walking on his path and not another path. Sometimes we like to straddle. Sometimes we like to have one foot on the path of Jesus and the other foot on whatever we would like to do. We will arrange it so the two can walk parallel. But sometimes when our path takes a left and the path of Jesus takes a right...which one do we follow? Usually the answer is the wrong one and we have to find our way through the wilderness to find the right path again.

**Being in The Way means that we entirely focus our whole being on our race to Christ:** Hebrews 12:1-3: *Cloud of witnesses* - those great heroes of faith described in detail in Hebrews 11. These are examples of those who were faithful and served God before Jesus' time. They accomplished great feats of faith. We can draw strength from their experiences to help us run harder. This is a privilege but also a great responsibility. Jesus and those examples of faith are all we need to keep our hearts on fire! There must be an urgency in our lives.

We have to choose what and where our examples will be and to what we will conform. Jesus is The Way. He is the model we have to conform to.

**Trouble comes but we who are in The Way can now see it as opportunity!** 1 Peter 3:13-16: *Who is there to harm you* - unfortunately, there are a lot of people who will harm you.

*Even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness* - the righteousness of Christ, but do not be afraid if you have placed your feet on the right path.

*Those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame* - often times those who revile us are *not* put to shame. But they will be. In the Day of Judgment, Jesus described it that every word and deed will be accounted for.

Whatever the difficulty is that surrounds you, make sure your feet are on the path of Christ.

Jesus IS The Way. He is the door, the path and the inspiration that we need to find our way, to put on faith and walk the walk! Our lives bring us things we do not expect, but God overrules those experiences for our highest spiritual welfare if our feet are firmly on the path of Jesus.

**So, how is Jesus The Way?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...  
Think about it...!**