

**THEME: FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**

**As we Gather**

There comes a time when we have to accept and believe what we cannot prove. Jesus says 'believe (trust) in God and also believe (trust) in me'. He is the proof of God's power and love (Romans 8:32). He reassures us that He is with the Father and will return to take us home to the place He has prepared for us.

**Reading Scripture      John 14 : 1 – 14**

**Thinking together**

Jesus had told His disciples where He was going (John 7:33), but they still had trouble understanding Him (John 14:2-5). So He explained (verse 6) that He embodied / gave expression to, three basic concepts of the Jewish religion.

- The way in which individuals must walk and the ways of God.  
See Deuteronomy 5:32-33; Isaiah 30:21; Isaiah 35:8; Psalm 27:11

**Jesus said "I am the way..." What does this mean in your life? Discuss**

- The truth (moral character).      See Psalm 86:11; Psalm 26:2-3; Psalm 119:30

**Jesus said 'I am "...the truth..." What does this mean in your life? Discuss**

- The life (that is worth living).      See Proverbs 6:23; Proverbs 10:16-17;  
Psalm 16:11

**Jesus said 'I am..."the life..." What does this mean in your life? Discuss**

Jesus went on to say that those who know Him, know the Father (John 14: 7-11).

In and through Jesus

- = ordinary homes and families are sanctified
- = work, living together, making ends meet become touched by the hand of God and tinged with glory
- = in our struggles with temptation we meet the struggles of God
- = we see God loving, and learn the anxiety, pain, sorrow and joy of love
- = we see God upon a Cross and learn the meaning of worship
- = we discover the holiness of God as we find Him (Jesus) the channel through which God came to mankind (Matthew 11:1-6)

**Which of these dimensions / expressions of God touches you most deeply, and why?  
Discuss**

Jesus was the visible, tangible image of the invisible God, and anyone who has faith in Him (John 14:12) is able, through the Holy Spirit, to draw on the spiritual resources of God to carry on through bad / hard times, and also, to carry to others the Gospel of Good News.

Prayers offered in faith (John 14:12) and in Christ's name (verses 12-14), will be answered if they please and bring honour to the Father.

**What kind of prayers will please the Father? Discuss**

**What kind of prayers bring honour to the Father? Discuss**

### **In Closing**

In Jesus' time God-fearing people were oppressed by the difference and distance between God and mankind.

**Why is this not true of Christ-followers today?**

### A Prayer you might like to read

Eternal God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way the truth and the life for all creation. Grant us the grace to walk in His way, rejoice in His truth, and share His risen life.

Amen