

Hi Families!

Family Discipleship is kind of a big deal. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 instructs parents to make God front and centre in home life; talking with children, impressing upon them and writing with them at all times of the day and night. Put simply a parent's primary ministry is to raise their children to be disciples of Jesus.

For some of you it's already a regular part of the rhythm of your family's week; keep up the good work. Some of you will feel like you could be doing better; keep on trying, practice builds confidence and competence. And some of you feel overwhelmed and don't know where to start; that's ok, your church family is here to help.

Our prayer is that this Family Discipleship Guide will give you some helpful tools in developing a weekly rhythm of discipleship practices to help you and your family to grow together in love and service of God.

We've broken the guide in into 5 parts each with its own specific way of engaging the bible passage that week:

REFLECT encourages family members to reflect on the bible passage and what it means to them.

REACT engages your emotions and helps bringing those reactions before God.

RELATE encourages families to share honestly, and listen deeply to how one another are growing as disciples.

RESPOND helps families to work out real and practical ways they can respond to God in light of the weekly bible passage. **REVIEW** encourages families to review the bible passage for the week and engage with it in a different way.

You might like to use these as 5 separate daily devotions, OR you might like to group some of the sections together to make a couple of family devotional times but leave yourself room to use other resources you've found elsewhere. Remember these are a collection of tools, not rules, for family discipleship.

Don't forget to show us how your family are discipling one another by sharing your photos and reflections on our social media pages with the hashtag #WeAreLivingChurch.

Sunday 28th June

BIBLE PASSAGE

John 14-1-7 (1-17 was the sermon)

BIG IDEA

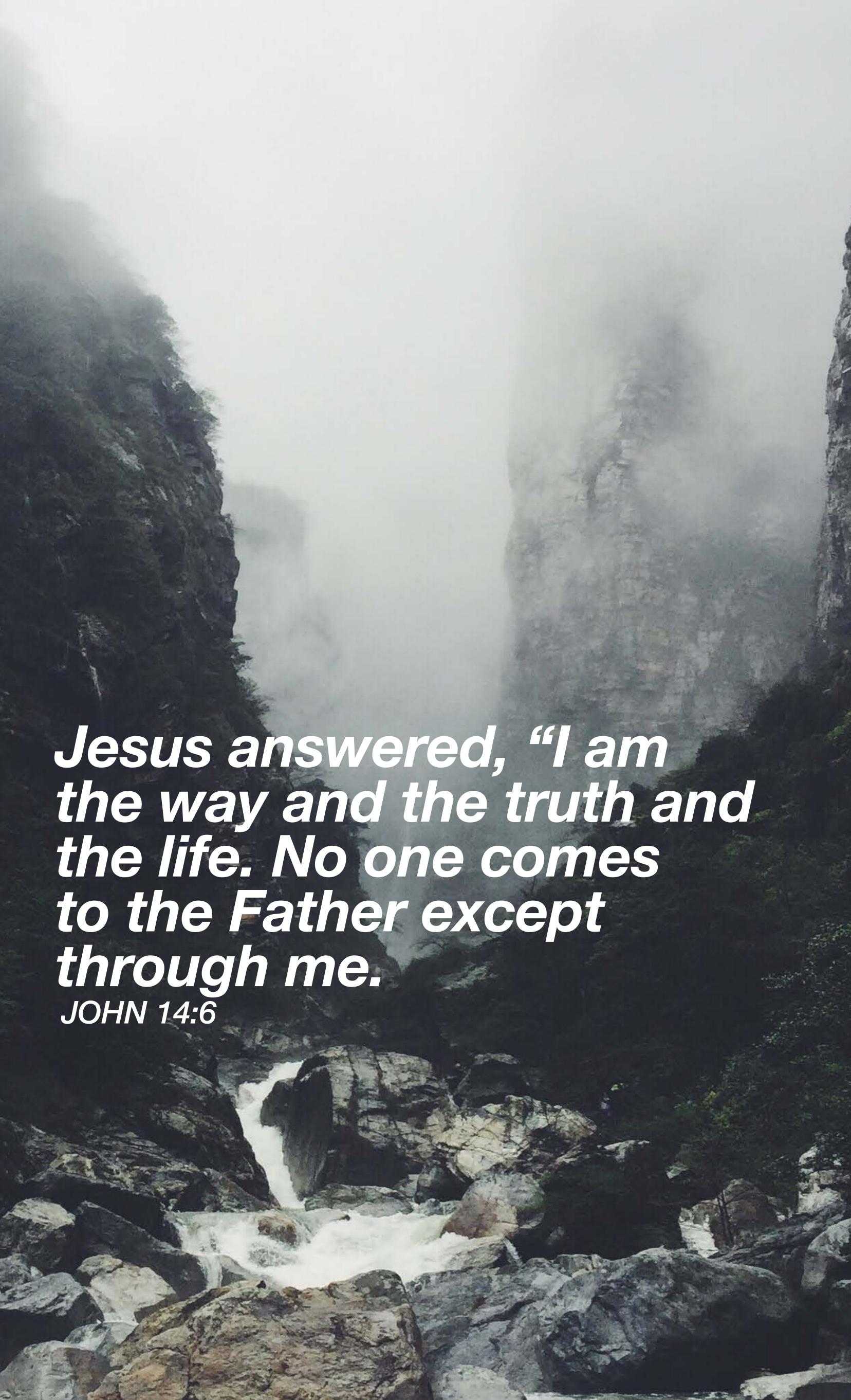
We are constantly bombarded with many opposing ways and truths to find life in this crisis. Jesus tells us that he is the only true way to find life forever with God our Father.

KIDS BIG IDEA

Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. Jesus is the only true way to life forever with God our Father.

APPLICATION

Through Jesus, God has given us his Spirit - The Spirit of truth. When you are faced with choices trust the Spirit is with you to help you.



Reflect

As parents, encourage your family to personally reflect on the Bible passage, and what it means for them. Try to guide this so it lands close to the big idea.

KIDS

As a family read John 14:1-7 together.

What does Jesus tell his disciples to do when their hearts are troubled (worried)? Trust in God and in Him/Jesus

Where does Jesus tell his disciples he is going? Why?

Jesus says he's going to his Father's (God's) house. He's going to prepare a place for you.

How can we know the way to live with God?

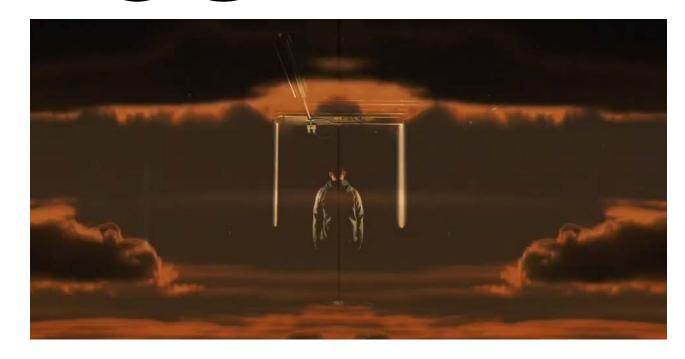
Jesus is the way, when we know Jesus we know God

Explore this passage a little more by watching this week's I AM video:



Youtube - Living Church - I am the Way, Truth, Life.

YOUTH



Youtube: Street Lights I Am the Way, Truth, Life

What does Jesus tell his disciples to do when their hearts are troubled (worried)? *Trust in God and in Him/Jesus*

Where does Jesus tell his disciples he is going? Why?

Jesus says he's going to his Father's (God's) house. He's going to prepare a place for you.

How can we know the way to live with God?

Jesus is the way, when we know Jesus we know God

PRAY

Dear God,

Thank you for sending Jesus so we can get to know you. Help us to trust you when our hearts are troubled. Thankyou that we can live with you forever because of what Jesus has done. Amen. As parents, encourage your family to see how they are reacting emotionally to the Bible passage. Engage emotionally and bring it before God.

KIDS

Create a treasure map for your family to find a hidden treasure somewhere in your home. The treasure could be a snack or special treat but should also include a print out of this week's passage John 14:1-7. You may even consider having your kids make the map.

Follow the map to the treasure.

As a family discuss what the treasure is in the bible passage (life with God), and what map we're given to show the way (Jesus).

How does it make you feel knowing God sent Jesus to be the WAY we know him and live with him forever?

Why not sing about it with this Colin Buchanan Classic:

YOUTH

Take a family trip in the car with no destination in mind. Have a dice with you and any time you come to an intersection roll the dice. If you roll an even number turn right, if you roll an odd number turn left. Give yourself a time limit (20mins) and see how lost you get together as a family. Use your phone or your car's GPS to find your way back home.

As you make your way home discuss this week's passage, John 14:1-7. Discuss what you think Jesus meant when he describes himself as the Way the Truth and the Life, and how that makes you feel.

GET MUSICAL

Citizens has a great new song reminding us about the truth of who Jesus is, including the way the truth the life. Why don't you get your friends and family together to make your own version of the song. If you send them a copy it may even influence how they do their studio recording before it's officially released. email people@wearecitizens.net. For all the chord charts go to https://www.weareworship.com/uk/songs/view/only-jesus-christ-9855/21820/chords-lyrics



PRAY

Dear God, Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the way to live with you now and forever. Amen As parents, encourage your family to share honestly, and listen deeply to

ALL TOGETHER

Parents it will be important for you to model honesty and vulnerability as you answer these questions, so your kids know they can do the same.

Allow time for everyone to reflect and answer each question openly and honestly.

Make sure you listen well to one another, and pray from the heart.

Remind each other what this week's passage (John 14:1-7) taught us about Jesus.

Print a copy of this page out for each member of your family, or write the following questions out on a piece of paper for each family member so they can write down their own answers.

What are things that make your 'heart feel troubled' (worry)?

Allow each member of your family time to answer each question and write a short summery of their answers on their own piece of paper. (Parents of younger kids you may need to act as scribe for your kids.)

How does knowing Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life help/encourage you?

How would you like us to pray for you this week?

PRAY

Once everyone has had a chance to respond to the questions and write down a summary of their answers take your pieces of paper and make them into paper planes. Have everyone stand around the outside of your living room or yard and throw your planes into the middle. Have everyone collect a plane from the middle that's not their own. Take time to pray for the person who's plane you picked up. Keep the paper plane with you for the rest of the week and put it in a prominent place (on your desk, your bed head, the fridge) where it will remind you to pray for that family member throughout the week.

Respond

As parents, encourage your family to work out real and practical ways they can respond to God in light of the Bible passage. Land the application in this section.

KIDS



What troubles did Joni face?

Who does she trust when she is sad, worried or upset?

How does trusting Jesus shape how she lives now?

How does trust Jesus shape the choices YOU make?

YOUTH



What troubles did Joni face?

How does her list of troubles and worries compare to yours?

Who does Joni trust when she is sad, worried or upset?

How does trusting Jesus shape how Joni lives now?

How does trusting Jesus shape the choices YOU make?

PRAY

Heavenly Father,
Help us to trust you to guide how we live, and
the choices we make.
Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the
way to live with you now and forever.
AMEN



As parents, encourage your family to review the Bible passage for the week. This section tries to find a way to engage with the passage in a different way.

KIDS

Listen to the song – "Perfect Hero" from Community Connect 2016.



Spend some time reflecting on the lyrics and Jesus being the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

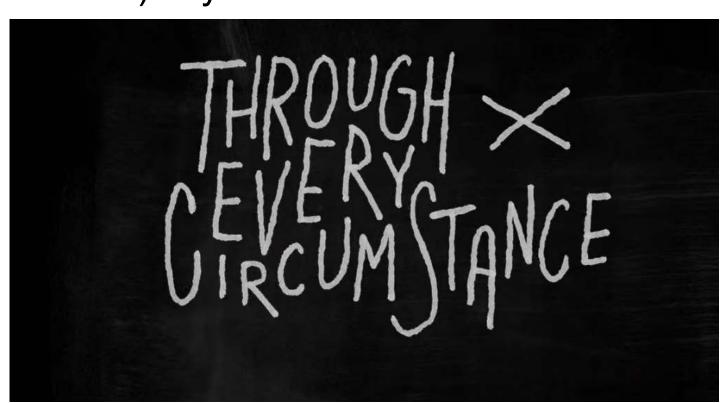
What stands out to you?

What are you encouraged by?

What's something you remember from the song and the passage this week?

YOUTH

Listen to the song – "The Way (New Horizon)" by Pat Barrett.



Spend some time reflecting on the lyrics and Jesus being the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

What stands out to you?

What are you encouraged by?

What's something you remember from the song and the passage this week?

PRAY

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the WAY to live with you forever.

Thank you that because you sent Jesus we can know the TRUTH about who you are, and what you are like.

Help us to honour and live for you now, as we look forward to LIFE with you forever.

Amen.