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One The Way – JMA and Young People's Sunday

By John Logan

Bible Readings

- **Psalm 121:** Lifting our eyes to the hills for help from God who never slumbers
- **John 14:1-7:** Jesus reveals himself as the way, the truth and the life for his followers

Sermon

I am the way, the truth, and the life. We're just going to briefly pause and find a little bit about what went on last weekend at 3Generate.

So let me think about our own relationship with Christ.

Now, this is the journal that they were given. They are really lovely these journals. This is the primary one. They do a secondary one as well. And you can see it's got all sorts of activities each week for a whole year to help them stop and reflect and think about what it means to be on the way on God's journey.

So if you are of the age 8 to 18 next year, think about it. If you haven't been before, it's great. It's a great time. We'd love to take as many people as possible of that age group.

I think you can just reflect yourself. What I am going to do is take you to a page in this journal which was used on the theme and it's going to appear on the screen now. There we go. You see where it talks about I am the way, the truth and the life. Now four things. I am the way, the truth and the life. So let's think about that for a second.

I am first of all two words. I am. What does it mean? I am. If you take yourself a long way back, you go right back into the Old Testament and the stories of Moses. Moses was trying to avoid doing what God wanted him to do. He went off into the desert and said, 'I don't know. What's going on? Why have I got to do this? Why have I got to free my people.' So he got there and he got into the desert and amazingly a bush caught fire but it wasn't on fire and he was confused. When he said, Lord, I don't know who is sending me, who is it that wants me to go, and he said tell the people that I am sent you. I am God. This is the name that in Hebrew means Yahweh. God, the name of God is one that's sent to you. So each one of us is being sent by God just in that one, two words there, I am.

The way. Well, we talked about the way. Most people find themselves on journeys, on ways, going to places. You need a map or you need something to guide you. Most people these days use a satnav if they want to get somewhere or they get lost. But you might have a map of life, the way. If you're not sure of the way, we have produced, we have these. We will get these for you if you haven't had one already. A pocket guide to what it means to follow the

way. It talks about praying, about worshipping, about noticing, about caring, about learning, about being open, sharing, living, telling people, challenging yourselves, challenging things that are wrong, flourishing and serving God, the way of life.

There are many ways, there are many roots you can choose. Some of them don't involve God. Some of them involve darker things. They can involve fun times, but they can also involve dangerous times. For some people, they choose ways that are not just not healthy. But God is a healthy way and choosing to follow the way is so important.

And then the truth. The truth. What's the truth? How can we tell what the truth is today? I feel worried for younger people growing up today in finding the truth. You could go onto the computer now and say, 'I want to know this fact about the world.' And you'll get all sorts of information. Some of it's true, some of it's not. And sometimes a computer and AI will tell you what you want to hear, not necessarily what's the truth.

But we know that in the Bible we have so many truths. We have so much to help us find our own way using the Bible. When you use the Bible properly, you are putting it in context. It's still an old book, but it's a book that is full of so many truths that can make your life so much better, so much richer, so much happier if you read some of these things and you take them in and learn to follow those ways.

The fruits of the spirit of joy. Can anyone name the fruits of the spirit? Love, joy, patience, self-control, forgiveness. If you have those, if you love God so much and those things in your life, what a better world we'd have. What a better place it would be.

So following way, learning the truth helps us to live the life. And you might look at people with fast cars. But it's not really. The fast life, the high fashions, they'll crumble. But the life we talk about is a life in Jesus. And that's a great life.

Jesus came that you might have life and life in all its fullness. John 10:10 says, 'I have come that you might have life and life in all its fullness.' That's great. Fullness. Do you know what full is? Full is when you've got a bowl. Full. Not just with a gap at the top. When it's full, you can just drink it. And if you're not careful, it'll spill. But full to spilling is dangerous. It is hot. But normally it's full. That's the sort of fullness that God gives you. Life, life in all its fullness, that richness, that sense of God is there with us.

So, that's what we've been thinking about last weekend. And I thought that was so important to share with you today that you all can have that life in all its fullness by following the great I am by following the way of Christ by following the truth and by living in the life and the love of Christ.