Only one option, John 14:1-11

• Main Idea:
  ◦ Jesus has gone to prepare a way to heaven for us. He is the way we will get there because he is God. All other approaches to getting to heaven are not legitimate.

• Ice breaker:
  ◦ Use tablet (preferably) or print the PDF “Which One of these in not like the Other?”

• Small group note:
  ◦ We really only covered the first point on Wednesday night

• Jesus is going to prepare heaven
  ◦ Explain:
    ▪ Jesus is going away and they are sad, so he explains to his disciples why it is to their advantage that he go away.
    ▪ Don't worry he will come back for you
    ▪ Jesus is going to the Father
      ▪ Jesus is going to die and then go the heaven to sit at the Father’s right hand.
    ▪ In what sense is Jesus’ departure preparation for others to travel the way he has gone?
      ▪ Jesus’ dying is done in order to take your punishment of death for you.
      ▪ His rising from the grave is the conquering of death and we can also participate in the resurrection at our death.
      ▪ Jesus has inherited eternal life in heaven, and the Bible says that we are the first born among many sons. We too will inherit eternal life.
  ◦ Illustrate:
    ▪ We are all going on vacation and Frank is going to prepare the way.
      ▪ He is going to invent and build a flying car for us to take.
      ▪ He has been working on making an island off the coast of Panama City Beach.
      ▪ He is going to build a resort there.
      ▪ And you can all go for free because Frank is the owner.
  ◦ Apply:
    ▪ Jesus has already figured out the way and tested out getting there.

• Jesus is the way to heaven
  ◦ Explain:
    ▪ Jesus: I am leaving but don’t worry you will know how to get to me.
    ▪ “no one comes to the Father except through me.”
      ▪ Thomas has just asked how to get to the Father.
Jesus’ answer show us that without these three attributes in place you can not get to the Father.
- “no one”
  - exclusive
  - Oprah is wrong
- The way
  - Jesus is the Tardis by which you enter heaven.
- The truth
  - God has revealed truth to us.
  - Jesus is claiming to be the truth.
  - As we discover the truth we discover the way to where Jesus is going.
    - John 17:3
- The life
  - eternal life is the way to where Jesus is going
  - Illustrate:
    - Jesus’ words are divisive, like a sword dividing the world.
    - Matthew 10:34-39
  - Apply:
    - Make sure you don’t think that COEXIST is true. Jesus says, no one else except those who have come by the “way.”
- Additional Notes:
  - 14:6
    - “truth”
      - “in the New Testament the use of the term is complicated by the fact that it has imported some features from the Old Testament as well. There words like אֱמֶת, אֱמוּנָה, refer to truth, but they also refer to faithfulness, reliability, trustworthiness, sureness, and the like.” — Leon Morris, The Gospel According to John; NICNT, pg 259
      - Truth in the NT is associated with God the Father (Roman 3:7) and with Jesus (Ephesians 4:21).
      - John 8:31-32
  - We know Jesus is the way because he is one with the Father
    - Explain:
      - Jesus and God are one
      - How do we know how to get to where the Father is? We know it by Jesus who is the Father.
        - God reveals...way, truth, life; Jesus claims to actually be those things.
        - We discover truth Jesus is truth. That is only accurate if he is God.
    - Illustrate:
      - Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in Jesus.
The Jehovah’s Witnesses (JW) have made their own Bible called, “New World Translation.”

They add a word to this verse that does not exist in the Greek. The verse literally says “I am in the Father and the Father is in me.” They add a word to the verse to make it say what they want, “I am in union with the Father.”

JW’s believe that Jesus is not the same as God. But that does away with Jesus’ argument in this passage.

Apply:
- Be specific. If someone does not believe that Jesus is God then they will not end up with Jesus in heaven.
- Christianity is the only religion that believe in Jesus as God.
- This news should make us empathetic towards others, for they have no hope. Earth is the best they will ever have.