

LOVE *Where You* LIVE

A Neighboring Project of the Senatobia Church of Christ • LifeGroups Study for September 25, 2016 • "THE WAY"

ICEBREAKER

- Are you good at giving directions, or following directions to a place you've never been?

THE TEXT

- Read aloud the text for this series, **Matt 22.35-40**, and for this lesson, **John 14.1-7**.

THE SERMON

- When Jesus proclaimed "I am the way," why would that have been so challenging to the Jews who were listening? What would they have viewed as the way to God? (read John 5:39)
- In the text from John, what is the connection between "the way" and "knowing?"
- Thomas was always full of questions. What does his question "how can we know the way" reflect what all the disciples were struggling with?

REFLECT

- For the Jews, everything they knew, and everything they did regarding religious duty and ritual were not enough. What are some "church" things or "religious" things that we sometimes view as ways to God?
- How are we sometimes guilty of mistaking the following things as ways to God?

KNOWLEDGE • TRADITION • ATTENDANCE

- Jesus's disciples had unrealistic expectations about his life and purpose. What unrealistic expectations do we sometimes have about the nature of our discipleship?

- How did the resurrection change the disciples of Jesus? How can the resurrection change us?
- Discuss how everything in the law and prophets hinges on the commands to love God and love others. (i.e. think about the 10 Commandments and how each reflects these principles)
- Discuss what scripture has to say in the following passages about the relationship between knowing and doing:

James 2:17 • James 2:21-22 • James 4:17
Luke 12:47 • 2 Peter 2:21 • John 13:17

- If faith, and knowing, and understanding are not enough without obedience, and the greatest commands are loving God and loving our neighbor, what sometimes keeps us from obeying those two commands? Can we obey only one of these commands?
- Talk about "The Lawnmower Man" video. How did it impact your thinking about neighboring? Is this kind of neighboring difficult for you, or does it come naturally to you?
- Jesus is the way. How does the life of Jesus demonstrate loving God and loving our neighbors? Was Jesus's love for God passive or active? Was his love for others passive or active? How?

CHALLENGE: A Call To Action

Continue to list people you would invite to be a part of the journey with you, and to pray over their names. Begin to be creative in active neighboring as opposed to passive neighboring.

PRAY

Father, in the name of your son Jesus we pray... Open our eyes to opportunities to active neighboring. Help us to see our neighbors through eyes of mercy and servanthood, and do good to them in any way we can find.