

**Cell notes 4.8.19**  
**Summer Programme 2019: The 'I Am' sayings of Jesus**  
**'I am the Way'**

John 14: 1-7 (New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised)

1 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And you know the way to the place where I am going.' 5 Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' 6 **Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.** 7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

- The issue here is both (a) knowing the Destination & (b) crucially, knowing the Way to get there.
- Jesus is basically saying to his followers: Look, from knowing me & being with me & listening to my teaching you should know I am from God and I am returning to God. And you should realise that by believing in me you have found a way to follow me there. You are going to heaven because you trust me!
- **1. Knowing the Destination.** We are people focused on heaven because relationship with God & living with God takes priority over all else. The big question is: how to get there? Which brings us to...
- **2. Knowing the Way.** Jesus reveals the 'Way' to achieve reconciliation with God, relationship with God (eternal life culminating in heaven but starting before that).
- But this reminds us that this is a process and a way of life. That is why in Acts 2:47 we are told that (after Pentecost) "*day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.*" It is a journey of salvation, it is a process.
- This is important to remember because how we conduct ourselves on the **Way** needs to be in keeping with the **Destination** to which we are headed.
- And this principle has the widest application: right across life, society and politics.
- Otherwise, our goals will stand as indictments against us, even as we achieve them, rather than as objects honourably gained. We must not let what we are aiming for, cause us to become blind or hardened to wrong conduct on the road to get it! Honourable goals imply honourable conduct to achieve them. And if not, then we should question both the conduct & the goal. I think that is a prophetic word for all of us in 2019. 'Let those who have ears to hear, hear...'

**Applying the scripture:**

1. How is Jesus '*the way*'. How would you unpackage and explain the meaning?
2. How does the exclusiveness of this claim relate to other religions? What are your thoughts on this? We briefly touched on this on Sunday.
3. How should this belief in Jesus '*the way*' affect how we live our lives?
4. What challenges does this pose to our country in 2019, at a time of huge turbulence.