

Jesus Is the Way, the Truth, and the Life



St. Charles Catholic Church
Liturgy of the Word with Children
Family Reflection for
May 7, 2023 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Family Prayer:

Loving Father, as we follow the example of Christ, may each step along the way lead us closer to you and your heavenly kingdom. Amen.

Gospel Reading: John 14:1-12

Accept the gift of faith and serve

Reflection:

In today's Gospel, Jesus is talking about going home to his Father in heaven. Jesus explains that he will prepare a place for us and invites his disciples to follow him on the path. Thomas questioned Jesus and said, "Lord how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Jesus is in the Father, and God the Father is in Jesus.

Faith in Jesus is the way to truth, to the kingdom of God, and to eternal life. We follow Jesus when we act in justice by being fair and honest and when we look for the good in people and treat others with kindness and respect. When the way of Jesus becomes our way, then we begin to see the truth about God and live a life centered in God's ways rather than our own ways. Jesus' ways lead us to truth, which leads us to life.

Jesus knows our deepest yearnings and is preparing a place in heaven suited just for us. It will be a place where we will see the Lord, our God, face-to-face. Our eyes will be open to the beauty and holiness and power of God, making heaven better than a dream home.

Discuss these questions as a family:

*Jesus said "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places, and I am going there to prepare a place for you." How do you picture heaven? What would your dream home look like?

*How can I trust in Jesus and follow his way, even when I do not yet see fully where I am going?

*What are some ways that you can follow Jesus in your day-to-day lives?

Family Activities:

*As you go about your daily life, let God work through you by making an effort to work for peace, practice truth, offer forgiveness, share love, and respond with compassion.

* Talk together as a family about whether people outside of your family recognize common traits of your family. Are there physical resemblances that people recognize and so know each individual as a member of your family? Are there mannerisms that are shared by members of your family? What are some common interests and work that people might associate with your family?

