

**Lesson #17**  
**Teaching Outline**

**“A Death, A Sickness, A Rejection, and A Commission”**  
**Mark 5:21 – 6:6**

**Principles:**

1. We find the answers to all our needs as we learn to sit at the feet of Jesus.
2. When you go to Jesus for help, you will both give to and get from Him far more than you bargained for.
3. Not everyone has the same degree of faith, but Jesus responds to faith, no matter how weak it may be.
4. We may not have strong faith but we DO have a strong Savior.

**Lecture Outline**

**Divine Appointments**

- I. **The Contrasts**
  - A. Their Identities
  - B. Their Social Status
  - C. Their Specific Circumstances
  - D. Their Desperation
  - E. Their Solution
  
- II. **Divine Appointment # 1: The Woman with Issue of Blood**
  - A. Her Faith
  - B. Her Healing
  - C. Her Public Testimony
  
- III. **Divine Appointment # 2: Jairus, The Powerful Synagogue Officer**
  - A. A Word of Faith (v. 36)
  - B. A Word of Hope (v. 39)
  - C. A Word of Love and Power (v.41)
  - D.
  
- IV. **A Very Special Trio of Witnesses**

**Principle:** Waiting on the perfect timing of God brings untold blessing into the life of one who exercises faith in the goodness of God.

**Principle:** God’s timing is not ours, and His timing always involves mystery.

**Lesson #17**  
**Series 2 – Story 11**

**A Death, A Sickness, A Rejection, and A Commission**

Mark 5:21 - 6:6; Luke 8:40-56; Luke 9:1-9

***JESUS HAS DOMINION OVER DEATH AND DISEASE AND EMPOWERS HIS FOLLOWERS TO SHARE THE GOSPEL IN HIS NAME.***

**Story Outline:**

- I. Dying girl revived
- II. Diseased woman cured
- III. Dismissal of Jesus in hometown
- IV. Disciples sent out by Jesus

**Life Application Principles:**

- 1. Sometime God's delays bring a greater demonstration of His power.
- 2. We have been given victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3. When Jesus is all we have, we find that He is all we need.
- 4. Only those who reach out to Jesus in faith experience His miraculous power.
- 5. Jesus responds to genuine faith no matter how small and feeble.
- 6. Jesus brings peace and calmness into our frenzied and frustrated lives.
- 7. For the believer, death is merely a doorway into eternity with God.
- 8. Faith always believes that God knows what He is doing.
- 9. Jesus is able to meet the deepest needs of the human heart.
- 10. Jesus is compassionate and full of mercy - never too busy to be interrupted.
- 11. Transformation takes place as a result of being "touched" by Jesus.
- 12. Familiarity can desensitize us to the truth of who Jesus is.
- 13. Ministry in Jesus' name always gives more than it receives.
- 14. Jesus calls, empowers and sends out His children to accomplish His work on earth.
- 15. God's people are to share the power and peace of God wherever they go and leave behind a blessing.
- 16. God calls His followers to go, give, and expect nothing in return.

## Name of Jesus

### Devotional Reading

#### “THE WAY - THE TRUTH - THE LIFE”

One of my greatest fears is being lost . . . truly lost, with no one to guide me and no map to show me the way back home, to that place of safety and security where I am surrounded by people, places and things that give me comfort and set my heart at peace. Being lost gives me such great anxiety and produces such irrational thoughts in my mind that I can't think clearly or see rightly. Just ask my husband. Being lost is not a good thing for me! What he sees as an adventure to enjoy and a puzzle to be solved, I see as a huge problem with potentially tragic consequences. For example, several years ago, while hiking along a remote and very poorly marked trail in the mountains searching for a waterfall, we truly lost our way. Several hours into our adventure and deep within the cool, damp and heavily wooded forest our only source of guidance, the GPS on our cellphone, failed. With very little food and water left and no compass or equipment for survival, I began to grow anxious. The longer we walked, often in circles, and the harder we tried to find *something* to give us a clue to point us in the right direction, the greater my fear grew and true panic began to set in. As the hours went on and the light of day began to grow dim, an overwhelming sense of doom began to assault my mind and kill my hope of getting out of the forest before the dark of night. With seemingly no way out from the dire situation I perceived we were in, I began to pray, earnestly beseeching the Lord to help us. Almost instantly, the Holy Spirit broke through my fear and anxiety and audibly whispered to me, *“Do not fear! I AM with you! I will show you the WAY out. FOLLOW ME! Be still for a moment . . . look up . . . listen, trust Me. I know exactly where you are and I know the exact way you must go to get out. I will deliver you out of this dark place and see you safely home.”* Immediately, like when the sun breaks through on a cool cloudy day, incredible warmth enveloped me. My heart ceased to quiver, rational thinking returned to my mind, and that *“peace that passes all understanding”* flooded my soul. As I turned the focus of my heart and mind onto my merciful, faithful and loving Savior. He opened my eyes to see and my ears to hear the signs in nature that marked the WAY out of the woods. Knowing that God was right there with me and trusting that He would keep His word, I followed His every command and we easily made it back to our car and on to the safe place I longed to be. Thanks be to God the Father and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ who mercifully rescued us that day. By showing me the WAY out of the woods, He saved us from danger and graciously restored to us the precious gift of peace and security.

As I ponder the mercy, kindness and love that Jesus showed us that day, my mind quickly runs to one of the powerful truths He declared about Himself unveiling another aspect of WHO He is and WHY He came. During the evening of His last day on earth, Jesus gathered with just His twelve apostles to share one final, yet unforgettable supper. After humbly bowing to wash their

feet and sharing a most meaningful meal, Jesus proceeded to teach them many important and profound truths that they would need to know and understand in order to carry out the ministry to which He had called them. Aware of the danger, the hardships and the persecution they would soon face, and understanding the weakness of the human flesh, Jesus used this time to teach them in greater depth more about Himself and to prepare them for the days ahead. He reminded them of His purpose in coming to earth. He instructed them regarding the necessity of His death, resurrection and return to His Father. He encouraged them with the promise of sending His Holy Spirit to help them accomplish the work to which He had called them. And, He proclaimed the Good News that He would come back one day and take them to be with Him forever.

*“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going. Thomas said to Him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, **I AM THE WAY, AND THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**”*  
(John 14:1-6)

For someone like me who doesn’t like to be lost, these are some of the most encouraging, life-changing and hopeful words ever spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ. To know there is Someone who clearly sees, and unmistakably knows the **WAY** out of the darkness and uncertainties of life on earth is a great comfort and blessing. To understand that this Someone, not only KNOWS the **WAY** out of the darkness, but also the **WAY** in to the place of light where there is unending peace, eternal security, genuine happiness and everlasting life is exciting. And finally, to grasp the profound truth that this Someone not only KNOWS the **WAY**, but also IS the **WAY**, instilling peace and hope in my heart. Genuinely believing the **TRUTH that Jesus is THE only WAY that leads to eternal LIFE** is the beginning of receiving the very things we all crave and earnestly desire.

As simple and easy as this sounds, we by nature in our sinful flesh, are prone to distort and complicate this truth as found in God’s word. And Satan, whose goal is to keep us bound in the chains of sin and darkness, and incarcerated in the prison of death, is ever-present to cheer us on. Beginning in the Garden when he deviously planted doubt in Eve’s mind that led to rebellion against God and His way of holy and victorious living, Satan has been sowing seeds of doubt and unbelief that give birth to pride and self-righteousness in the hearts and minds of all men. As a result, man has been intent on mapping out his own way through life, believing that his efforts, his works, his “goodness” and his empty religion are far superior to that of God’s, and will lead him to that eternal peace and joy he desperately wants. Warped by pride and blinded by his own determined belief in his own wisdom and power, most men fail to realize that Jesus is the true guide, the inerrant map, the unfailing GPS, to get him to where he wants to be. Sadly, because of his resistance to **the TRUTH, that Jesus is the only WAY to an everlasting, abundant, victorious, and blissful LIFE**, man unknowingly secures for himself the sentence of eternal

destruction in the prison of hell. Blinded by willful ignorance he fails to see the life-saving **TRUTH** that Christ alone is the key that unlocks the padlock on the prison door of sin and destruction. He fails to believe that **the only WAY to salvation is through the very LIFE of the Son of God.**

*“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”* (Proverbs 14:21)

*“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”* (Isaiah 55:8-9)

From the very beginning of His earthly ministry, Jesus laid the foundation of the way to salvation and restoration with God that results in glorious eternal life. Using the simple, yet deeply instructive and meaningful command *“Follow Me,”* He made it clear that He held the answers to the desires of all men. Following the Lord Jesus Christ, going where He goes, conforming to His Holy way of living and obeying His commands, is not only the way to peace, security, satisfaction and joy, but also the very means of it. Jesus is the channel, the very **WAY**, through which we all must go in order to receive the pardon that secures our salvation and purchases our redemption that leads to an abundant and eternal life. There are no shortcuts or permissible side-roads along the way. We must follow Jesus’s life, with no thought to our own, all the way to His death on the Cross at Calvary. But, if we want complete victory we can’t stop at the foot of the cross. We must go through it. We must prostrate ourselves before Him, humbly confessing our sin and faithfully professing our belief in Him as the Lamb of God who died to set us free. We must die to our will, our pride and our self-righteousness. Like Jesus, we must go through the darkness of death in order to receive the new and glorious life we all desperately want that will endure forevermore.

In his book, The Calvary Road, Roy Hession writes, *“One of the things we must learn about the victorious Christian life is the utter simplicity of it. An over-all picture of the life of victory which has come to many of us is that of the Highway in Isaiah 35:8 – ‘And a highway shall be there, and it is called The WAY of Holiness.’ Though the Highway is narrow and uphill, it is not beyond any of us to walk it. The only way onto the Highway is up a small, dark, forbidding hill—the Hill of Calvary. It is the sort of hill we have to climb on our hands and knees—especially our knees. At the top of the hill, guarding the way to the Highway, stands so gaunt and grim. . . the Cross, the divider of time and the divider of men. At the foot of the cross is a low door, so low that to get through it one has to stoop and crawl through. It is the only entrance to the Highway. Before we can enter the Highway, God must bend and break the stiff-necked ‘I’ of self. In order to break our wills, He brings us to the foot of the cross and there shows us what real brokenness is. We see those wounded hands and feet, that face of love crowned with thorns, and we see the complete brokenness of the One who drank the bitter cup of our sin to the dregs and died in our place. So, the way to be broken is to look on Him and to realize it was our sin which nailed Him*

*there. Then as we see the love and brokenness of the God who died in our place, our hearts will become strangely melted, and we will want to be broken for Him and we shall pray:*

*Oh, to be saved from myself, dear Lord,  
Oh, to be lost in Thee,  
Oh, that it might be no more I,  
But Christ that lives in me.”*

Have you come to know and understand that **JESUS is the TRUTH that you must believe, the WAY that you must follow and the LIFE that you must receive in order to be saved?** Or, are you still living in the darkness and prison of sin because you are pridefully seeking salvation, peace, joy and eternal security on your own terms? Do you profess to be a “*follower*” of the Lord Jesus Christ, a “*seeker*” of His ways, yet in reality you are still secretly pursuing your own carefully plotted path? Do you fail to pray earnestly, listen faithfully and look intently to God for guidance and direction for each day as well as for the future? Until you turn from your inadequate ways and begin to truly follow the **WAY**, the Lord Jesus Christ, you will be forever lost. Your own personal GPS, nor the roadmaps of the world, will ever get you to where you long to be. Only Jesus can do that! Wherever you find yourself today, whatever road you are traveling, whatever path you are following, whatever life you are pursuing, remember what Jesus said. **“I AM THE WAY, AND THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME.”** Then, do whatever is necessary to get on the Highway of Holiness that leads to triumphant, everlasting life.

*“Search me, O God, and know my heart!  
Try me and know my thoughts!  
And see if there be any grievous way in me,  
And lead me in the WAY everlasting.”*  
(Psalm 139:23-24)

## THE DOCTRINE

### “BELIEF”

#### The Controversial Claims of Jesus

When Jesus told the crowds who were following Him who he was, they were shocked – many were offended. To them, Jesus was a simple carpenter’s son from Nazareth, proclaiming in his backwoods Galilean accent that He was the very one they had been anticipating - the long awaited Messiah, the Son of God, and the One who was in all ways equal to God himself! The claims Jesus made were so specific and so shocking that many people both in His day and in our day – including many who claim they are Christians – still find them offensive and attempt to downplay Jesus’ claims or ignore them. How could He say – “*I am the Way (to God), the Truth (you must embrace) and the Life (that endures forever)?*” The following is a simple review of the provocative claims our Lord Jesus made - claims that never ceased to evoke bitter controversy:

1. He claimed to have come from heaven, having existed eternally.
2. He claimed he was sent into the world by God the Father.
3. He claimed to be eternally coexistent with God the Father, even before the creation of the world.
4. He claimed to be the Savior of the world; the Way, the Truth and the Life; and furthermore, the ONLY way to God the Father.
5. He claimed to be the Messiah, long promised throughout the Old Testament Scriptures.
6. He claimed to be the resurrection and the life.
7. At his baptism, both the Father and the Holy Spirit affirmed him to be the Son of God.
8. He claimed deity that was confirmed by both Old Testament prophecy and New Testament fulfillment of that prophecy – prophecy that declared Jesus would be born in Bethlehem and called “*Immanuel*” – meaning God with us.
9. He claimed that He had come not to abolish the law but to fulfill it.
10. He claimed the right AS GOD to be worshiped by humanity.
11. He claimed the right to judge the human race.
12. He claimed to be without sin.
13. He claimed and demonstrated divine authority over disease, death, the wind, the waves and demonic spirits.
14. He claimed to have power and authority to rise from the dead.
15. He claimed the authority to forgive sins, an authority belonging to God alone.

The above is only a limited summary of all that Jesus claimed about Himself. The decision however, to believe and embrace these claims, is the responsibility of anyone who hears the gospel message. Therefore, the doctrine of BELIEF is perhaps the most important concept for one who is searching for truth with the intention of understanding the way to God. Belief in the Person and identity of Jesus and His claims, or the rejection of Him is a decision that literally sets the course of one's life, both now and in eternity. There is no more important issue needful of exploration than what it means to BELIEVE.

### **The Nature of Initial and Progressive Belief**

The Apostle Paul provides vital information about the nature of our belief in the person and claims of Jesus Christ. In Ephesians 1:13 he states:

*“And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having **BELIEVED**, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit.”* (v. 13)

Verses 18-20 of that same chapter take the concept of belief further to record the heartfelt prayer of Paul expressing his passion for the future maturity and sanctification of these beloved believers. His prayer exhorts the believers to keep growing in depth and knowledge of the Lord Jesus – living a life of maturity and producing an eternal impact upon the darkness of this world.

*“I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints and His incomparably great power for us who **BELIEVE**. That power is like the working of His mighty strength which He exerted in Christ when He raised him from the dead.”*

There are two very important and distinctive verb tenses of the same basic word “**BELIEVE**” that appear in the above verses. Verse 13 speaks of Christians “*having believed*.” This faith action we call “*belief*” refers to the exercise of belief in the claims of Jesus that lead to one's initial salvation. Each of us who profess to be Christians heard the gospel message at some point and from that moment in time chose to believe it and receive it. Because we exercised this “*faith action*” we immediately became a child of God. Because of the exercise of our faith, we believe and thus, belong to our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus, the only begotten son of God sent into this world to save us from our sin. At the initial point of our belief, we were given the gift of His Holy Spirit, marked with a seal of His ownership, and given eternal security. This “*faith action*” (our belief) was exercised by us (believers) in the past at the point in time we heard the gospel, thus, this belief when nurtured properly (through study of God's word, prayer, and fellowship) eventually blossoms forth in a transformed life resulting in a radical change in lifestyle and thinking. The results include a total transformation of attitude, action and behavior. The “**BELIEVER**” is now a new creature, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10, author's paraphrase).

In New Testament Greek, the word “*pistis*” means “*assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity.*” The Hebrew meaning is similar in nature and practice. With few exceptions, the words faith, belief, believing or believe are all translated from some form of the word “*pistis*” in the New Testament. Therefore when we think of believing Jesus or believing in Jesus’ claims of who He was, we can think of it interchangeably with having faith in God. Faith, therefore, is not something that you have, it is rather something that you do – something that like a muscle, must be exercised.

The Greek verb tenses of the word BELIEVE found in the scriptures stated above from Ephesians demonstrate the difference in the use of this word, “**BELIEVE.**” In one usage of the word, the tense indicates a completed action that took place in the past (“*having believed*” v. 13). And in the second reference (verses 18-20), the verb tense of the word “**BELIEVE**” indicates a *continuing action* of believing. The point? Our glorious walk with God began with an act of faith that brought us into our relationship with Jesus as Lord and Savior, BUT IT DOESN’T END THERE. Having in the past – at one point in time - believed in Christ, we have been called to continue believing for the rest of our lives in all He came to do and to say! This continual action of believing in Jesus Christ therefore, focuses not on the initial past act of our new birth, but on our ongoing sanctification – the deepening of our faith as we meet tests and challenges throughout life and the ongoing development of our potential spiritual impact upon the world as we grow to imitate Christ more fully and completely.

Having studied the life of Jesus for several weeks now, we must understand that nothing on earth can compare to the strength God is willing to interject into those whose lives are caught up in the act of believing. Tragically many, having *believed in Christ*, have *believed little of Christ* since! He who began that work in us however, has far greater things that He desires to accomplish with us. God calls us to leave the life of passivity – a life that is bred by a past-tense view of faith and belief - and become defined rather, by present tense – continuing action – believing Him through our meeting the challenges of life with an overcoming victorious faith and belief in the sufficiency and goodness of God. God has promised to supply an incomparable power in to the lives of those who live in such a way. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit Paul likens a lifestyle of deep faith and believing Jesus to the stunning power God exerted when he raised His Son from the dead! This means that God can raise marriages from the dead. He can restore life and purpose to those who have given up. He can forgive and purify the vilest sinner. God’s specialty is raising dead things to life and making impossible things possible. You do not have a need that exceeds His power to provide. His provision is supplied in abundance when we believe and do not doubt. As James declares: “*If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. BUT LET HIM ASK IN FAITH, WITH NO DOUBTING, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double minded man, unstable in all his ways*” (James 1:5-8).

## The Struggles of Life and the Role of Faith and Belief

It is true that our toughest battles will invariably concern matters of our faith – those times when we are tempted to think God’s Word and His ways simply will not work for us, that he has abandoned us, let us down or failed to come through for us. Just like the children of Israel, we will always have an enemy that wants to keep us out of our Promised Land. Once again the apostle Paul gives us the remedy. He states that *“Our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, authorities, and powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore, (he implores) put on the full armor of God.”* Interestingly, in light of our study of the doctrine of **Belief**, he states it this way; **“ABOVE ALL – taking the Shield of Faith, wherewith you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked”** (v.16). Why **“Above all”** do we need to learn to use the shield of faith? Because the shield is the *“armor’s armor.”* The shield actually protects the other pieces of armor. The ancient warrior hoped the fiery darts aimed at him never reached the helmet or the breastplate. A direct hit on any of the other defensive covers could still stun and bruise - even if it didn’t wound. The warrior’s goal was to extinguish any oncoming dart with his shield in order to diffuse all other potential damage. When the warrior’s shield was down, the other pieces of armor were vastly more vulnerable.

The same is true in our spiritual warfare. Our toughest battles will concern matters of faith. If Satan can get us to drop our shield of faith, he knows we cannot remain standing for very long. It is significant that Satan’s first recorded words that came from the serpent’s mouth were these: *“Did God REALLY say . . . . ?”* He used his fiery dart of deceit to sow the seeds of doubt in her mind. Posing as the serpent, Satan couldn’t keep Eve from believing in God, so he baited her instead, tempting her not to believe God’s wisdom and goodness and tempting her as well to distrust God’s motives regarding His instruction. Her walk was crippled, her doubt was contagious, and the couple lost the land God had placed under their feet – the land over which they were to have dominion. When Eve dropped her shield of faith, every other piece of spiritual armor became vulnerable. The shield of faith is the armor’s armor! Satan knew she wouldn’t remain standing for long. With the shield down – the helmet protecting the mind was vulnerable to attack. The breastplate protecting the heart was vulnerable, and all other defensive weapons of armor were compromised. And when she fell, she fell hard. **“ABOVE ALL – take up the shield of faith”** (Belief) and.... **Do not put it down!** When we respond to the enemy’s attacks of doubt, distortion and deceit with the truth of God’s word, the fiery darts of Satan’s temptations are extinguished and the enemy takes another hit.

A big difference exists between trying to manipulate God to give us what we want and cooperating with God so He can give us what He wants! The latter must be our goal. The soldier who is battle ready doesn’t learn how to use the offensive weapons – the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit (the word of God) in the heat of the battle. He practices on a regular basis holding the shield of faith – believing in the sufficiency of his God for all challenges and relying on the sword of the Spirit (God’s Word) long before the actual battle requires his

fighting. He prepared well in advance of the battle - before he faces the fiercest battles of this life. The soldier must be battle ready – and so must we!

### **The Practice and Exercise of our Belief**

One of the best ways to practice wielding the shield of faith is an exercise of recalling five simple statements reminding us of exactly what we **BELIEVE** as followers of Jesus. These five statements have the potential of sharpening your weapons – particularly your shield and your sword. It is wise to make a habit of reminding yourself of them often, allowing them to penetrate the marrow of your **belief** systems.

*God is who He says He is.  
God can do what HE says He can do.  
I am who God says I am.  
I can do all things through Christ.  
God's Word is alive and active in me.*

Jesus said, “*I am the WAY (you must follow to lead you out of your darkness and into my light), and the TRUTH (you must **believe** for there is no other), and the LIFE (you must receive Me in order for you to have My eternal life). No man comes to the Father except through Me.*”

How do you find “*THE WAY*”? Simply **BELIEVE!**

## Questions for Reflection

*Read Matthew 9: 18-22, Mark 5:21-43, Luke 8:40-56*

1. Who was Jairus? Why was he seeking Jesus?
  
2. Considering his position among the Jews and their stance against Jesus, why do you think Jairus was willing to take such a risk? What did he say, and does that surprise you? How did Jesus respond to him? What encouragement do you receive from His response?
  
3. Share a time when your desperation led you to Jesus? How did he meet your need?
  
4. As Jesus and Jairus were on their way to his home, what happened to disrupt their journey?
  
5. Read the 3 passages regarding the bleeding woman along with Leviticus 15:25-27.
  - a. What details do you learn about her suffering.
  
  - b. Why do you think she risked coming to Jesus in spite of the Mosaic Law?
  
  - c. What do her actions reveal about her faith?
  
  - d. How did Jesus respond when she touched Him?

- e. What details about this miracle are most significant to you? Why?
6. What report came to Jesus and Jairus regarding his daughter? What did Jesus say and do?
7. Why do you think Jesus allowed only a few select people in the girl's room? Briefly summarize the miracle that took place.
8. From these two miracles, what lessons or encouragement do you receive that deepen your faith and love for Jesus? What miracle do you want Him to perform for you today?

*Read Matthew 10:5-15, Mark 6:7-13, Luke 9:1-6*

9. According to Matthew, where were the 12 to go? Where could they not go? Why do you think Jesus made this distinction at this point in their ministry?
10. What were the disciples to take with them on their journey? Why?
11. What was the ministry of the 12 to include? Where did their power come from?

12. What instructions did Jesus give the 12 as to where to stay in each town? How were they to respond to rejection? What do you think is significant about this action?

13. What lessons do you learn from these passages regarding Christian ministry and service? How can you apply this in your own life?

14. Where is God calling you to go to share the Good News and display His mercy, love and power? What is hindering you or helping you obey the call?

*Read Luke 9:7-9. (Skim Matthew 14:1-12 and Mark 6:14-29, John 1:6-7 for background.)*

15. Recall the ministry of John the Baptist. How did Herod respond when he heard the report of what Jesus and the 12 were doing?

16. How do you think John's brutal beheading impacted Jesus ministry and that of his 12 disciples moving forward?

## **JESUS, THE WAY, AND THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE**

What are some of the "ways" you have experienced and followed in hopes of finding peace, security, joy and eternal satisfaction in your life and in the life to come? How has this profound truth of who Jesus Christ is impacted your life and changed your thinking about Who to seek and follow for guidance and direction moving forward?

## **SALVATION CHALLENGE**

Have you come to Jesus in deep humility and total submission asking Him to free you from the deadly disease of sin? Are you proving your faith by your willingness to share the truth of the Gospel with others?