

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

JOHN 14:6, CSB

By default, our hearts want to justify ourselves through our accomplishments. We sweat, strive and toil to prove to ourselves, the world and God we are worthy. We are worthy of affection and love. We are worthy of honor and recognition. We are worthy of admiration and esteem.

But the only way to God is outside of ourselves. While not altogether worthless, our striving is but vapor before the face of a holy and perfect God. The good news we bring to our friends and family who do not know Jesus is that the only way to the Father is through Jesus. We come to the feet of Jesus as our true selves: broken, tired and in need of restoration, and it is here we see Him as "the way, the truth and the life." Our way to God is found outside of ourselves, and on this path we find joy in the fact that we can never lose what we did not earn.

Identify what your *one* may use—esteem, recognition, power, etc.—to justify themselves. Share with them the good news that Jesus offers us rest from endless striving.