# Gospel of John Weekly Talk Ideas | Sean McGever

## John Chapter 14

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| Scripture suggestion, basic overview, and background:* This is another chapter which most YL leaders have never spoken about in club. I suggest continuing the “I am” statements. The I am statement in 14:6 is typically used to show the exclusivity of Christianity. This is certainly a part of what it is saying, but the context shows us that this is a relational comment for Thomas, Thomas simply wants to be with Jesus and the Father. With this in mind 14:5-7 could fit nicely for a club talk. Think of 14:5-7 as a person of Christ talk which shows several attributes of who God is: way/truth/life. For this to work in a club talk the speaker will need to spend some honest time meditating on their own journey with Jesus. Here is an outline of the entire chapter:
1. Jesus and heaven (14:1-4)
2. Jesus the way, truth, and life (14:5-7)
	1. Where is *Jesus* going? How can we know? (14:5)
	2. Jesus (personally) is...
		1. Way
		2. Truth
		3. Life
		4. No one gets to the Father except through Jesus
	3. Knowing the Father (14:7)
3. Jesus and the Father (14:8-11)
4. You will do greater things (14:12-14)
5. Jesus promises to come back / resurrect (14:15-24)
6. The Father will send the Holy Spirit (14:25-31)
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| Possible main point(s):* Jesus invites us to a journey with Him. We never need to be alone. Jesus is reliable and He brings life.
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| What this shows us about Jesus:* Jesus does not say “I *was* the truth” or “I *will be* the truth” but “I *am*” the truth. Present tense, Jesus is the truth right now.
* Jesus is the way... to the Father (v.6b). The aim is not “heaven” but to be with the Father. It is a relational aim, not a location-al aim.
* Jesus is the truth... not “truth” in such a way to win an argument (though that may be an option it is not the emphasis of this word since contextually it answers Thomas’ question in v.5 which is not about apologetics or any other sort of debate-worthy truth question), but this truth is like a faithful roadmap, its truth only functions to support the destination, which is to be *with* the Father. When you draw closer to Jesus as your guide you find that Jesus is truthful because He is truth Himself (Jn 1:14, 5:26). Similarly the Spirit is also called the Spirit of Truth (14:17).
* Jesus is the life... The way of Jesus is about life now and in the future, even overcoming death (Jn 10:10, 14:17). Life is always relational. The worst thing you can do to someone is put them in solitary confinement. God does not want us to be isolated from him relationally, we are truly alive when we are in a right relationship with God
* Think about the opposite of the way/truth/life: Jesus says I “am not” the wrong way, the lie, and death.
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| What this has to do with our life:* We want solutions and we want them fast. God rarely offers anything like that. But what God does offer is to be with us along the path of our life, God wants to direct and redirect us to a close relationship with the Father.
* Talk about how your journey with Jesus shown you the way, which has been reliable and true for full life.
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| Relevant technical details:* “house” / “rooms” (v.2) = These are metaphors, they should not be thought of as a hotel in heaven! The emphasis of the passage is *being* with God.
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| Possible illustrations:* Way: A great road trip story (personal one, movies like Tommy Boy!)... Often the destination is the secondary story, the life of the story is the adventure that happens along the way relationally.
* Truth: Show them something that you’ve found to be truthful: a scale or a clock or a map, better yet: a person
* Life: Bring in a plant which is growing and thriving. Going God’s way does this for people.
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*For more details see ylhelp.com*

*Jesus Comforts His Disciples*

**14** “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. 2 In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going.”

*Jesus the Way to the Father*

5 Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

8 Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

9 Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10 Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. 11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. 12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

*Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit*

15 “If you love me, you will obey what I command. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. 21 Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.”

22 Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”

23 Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

25 “All this I have spoken while still with you. 26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

28 “You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. 29 I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. 30 I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, 31 but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

“Come now; let us leave.