**The One and Only**

**Purpose**: To understand what it means to make the “one and only” (Jesus) Lord of your life.

The Apostle Paul’s great desire was to know Jesus and the power of His resurrection (*Philippians 3:10*). Likewise, he prayed that God would give us the wisdom so that we may know him better *(Ephesians 1:17).* Few people seeking a relationship with Jesus have an accurate picture of him. Before one can embrace true faith, he or she must first know, respect and even love the man to be followed.

Preparation: Read through a gospel, listing every inspiring observation you make about Jesus.

**Opening question**: Do you know Jesus well? How do YOU describe him? (Share your first *contact*)

**Introducing the One and Only**

One of Jesus’ closest disciples, John, said this about Jesus:

*“14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of* ***the one and only*** *Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth...*

 *“18 No one has ever seen God, but* ***the one and only*** *Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.”* John 1:14,18

* Jesus is God, yet he became man for us. Why would he do that?
* What type of man would be described as *“full of grace and truth?”*
* Hopefully this study, “**The One and Only**” will help you to know Jesus much better and will inspire you to fall in love with Him (build a personal relationship with God)

**John 8:24, 30-34 – The One and Only God and His Word**

* (v.24) What was Jesus referring to when he said, *“I am he”*?
* (v.31-32) What does Jesus mean by *“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciple. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free?”*
* Context: Who is Jesus talking to? (Hint: read v.30-31 again)

We can conclude that even with a *sincere faith* in Jesus, we need to put his teaching into practice to be a true Christian and to know the truth that sets us free.

What is the difference between someone who is “really his disciple” *versus* “religiosity” (Share your own experience with examples)?

**John 12:44-48 – The One and Only Light and Judge**

* Jesus declares that if we believe in him, we believe in God the Creator too…
* He is teaching them that he is the “light” that came to “save” them… Yet, he is warning them to be careful about the Judgement to come. What is the warning in v.48?
* Do you know his teaching well? What do you believe about God’s Word?

**John 6:35 – The One and Only Spiritual Food**

* Jesus was more than just a good moral teacher; he claimed that he is the source of spiritual nourishment.
* Could a mere human teacher make such statements about himself?

**The One and Only “I Am”** Let’s read a few other “I Am” statements of Jesus in John’s gospel: **8:12, 8:58, 9:5, 10:7, 10:11, 11:25, 13:13, 15:1, 18:37**

* Jesus does not give us the option of simply admiring him
* You must conclude that either he is mad or he is Lord!

**John 14:1-6 – The One and Only Way**

* Jesus claimed to be the only way to God
* What more could he do to lovingly show us that one true way?
* If you get to know him, you will follow him. He will lead you to heaven.
* Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God and the Savior?

**Conclusion: Are you ready to make Jesus the Lord of your life** (and stop following men’s traditions, religions, your own feelings, desires of the flesh, etc.)?

At the beginning of Christianity, when somebody was getting baptized, the person would publicly declare his/her faith in Jesus with these words “Jesus is Lord”

* **Romans 10:9-10** What is our “confession”? (or “good confession in 1 Timothy 6:12)
* **Acts 22:16** What does it mean “calling on his name”? Were Paul’s sins forgiven by fasting, repenting, or praying? Was Paul saved before he was baptized?

You are now ready to be “saved” from the Judgement to come if you completely follow God’s Perfect Plan of salvation:

* **Hear the Good News** of Jesus and believing (true faith from the heart)
* **Repent and be baptized** for the forgiveness of sins
* Make Jesus, **the One and Only**, Lord of your life (your good confession)
* **Let God transform you** with this new heart and new Spirit he promised us

Questions for Thought

* Have you brought your sins to the light yet? If not, why not? What is stopping you?
* Are you ready to be baptized (be born again)? When?

You are now ready to take that “step of faith” to become a true disciple of Jesus.

As we close, let’s read **John 13:34-35**

Be prepared and excited! This is our mission (*A new command I give you*) to accomplish:

***To love God, love people and lead others to follow Jesus***