

“No one comes to the Father except through me.” John chapter 14 verse 6

“Whatever you believe, that is the truth for you.” You've probably heard that. It's the slogan of relativism, the belief that there are many truths and many ways to God, and one way is as valid as another way. It's most famous parable is the one about the elephant in a dark room. Two people have found the elephant in the dark and one is holding its ear, so he thinks the elephant is big and floppy. The other has its trunk, so he thinks the elephant is long and thin. They are both right according to their own experience.

The problem with this is that they are both also wrong. Someone else may be there who has spent a bit more time exploring the whole elephant, and he has a better knowledge of it than the others. He is more right than they are, however much they might accuse him of intolerance when he tries to explain it to them.

In the same way, there is only one God. People may perceive him in many different ways, but there are things that are true about God whatever ideas people may have about him, and some people will undoubtedly have a clearer idea about what God is really like than others.

John describes Jesus as “the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” Elsewhere he is described as “The image of the invisible God”. Jesus claimed to have a unique connection with and knowledge of God, and to be the only one who could effectively lead people to God.

That's an audacious claim, and these days it's very difficult to convince people of that. That's why we who are Christians need to live in such a way that demonstrates the reality of the presence of Jesus in our lives. Our lives need to be different to the lives of those who don't believe, if our claim that Jesus is the only way to God is to be credible. They can be ordinary lives, but ordinary lives lived in humility, integrity and authenticity, bearing evidence of the presence of something that the world does not have. The real presence of God, bring hope, confidence, resilience and strength.

Prayer

Father, thank you that you have shown me the path to life by faith and trust in Jesus. Please help me to live a life which fully reflects the reality of the life of Jesus in me. Thank you for all the people who prayed for me and shared the good news about Jesus with me. May I be that person in the lives of others. In Jesus' name, amen.

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