

**Preparation Questions**  
**John 13:31 – 14:7**  
**“I am the way, the truth and the life”**

**Opener:** What things cause us to doubt whether heaven exists and whether we'll go there?

**Text 1:** Verse 31 sets up a vital discussion between Jesus and his disciples in ch13-17 where Jesus' teaches his disciples about the implications of his imminent death. Have a go at putting v31 in your own words and explaining why it is such a significant statement?

**Text 2:** What are the two big implications of Jesus' death that Jesus' wants his disciples to focus on in v32 -35? What will v35 involve in practice?

**Text 3:** Jesus uses the disciples' 5 questions (in this and next week's passage) to teach them vital truths about what it means to follow him after his death, resurrection and departure to heaven. What are Simon Peter's questions in v36 and v37? How should Jesus' answers in v36 and 13v38 – 14v4 a) clarify the root problem and b) reassure him? (**Hint:** noticing the difference between v33 and 8v21 helps.)

**Text 4:** In v4 Jesus' comment tees up a new question from Thomas. What are the key elements of Jesus' answer? How have these points (Jesus being the 'way' the 'truth' and the 'life') already been shown in John's gospel and how therefore are they a reassurance to the disciples?

**Sum up and apply:** In what ways might the disciples and we be troubled by Jesus being apart from his followers in heaven? Sum up the key assurances of this passage? In what specific ways might we struggle to believe these truths and what difference will it make to our life and that of our group if we do believe them?