

## Christ Is the Only Way

We tend to be serious and exclusive when dealing with serious matters. When you go to a physician for treatment, the doctor doesn't outline four or five arbitrary therapies, asking you to choose the one that "floats your boat." Rather, a physician seeks the greatest precision in addressing the patient's situation.

In the same way, but even more profoundly, Jesus claims to address the central elements of life, putting Himself forward to be the answer to our most profound needs.

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden," Jesus invites, "and I will give you rest." This loving call invites us into a new way of life filled with blessings and with responsibilities. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me," is the Savior's commandment and promise, "for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

The power of the gospel is transformational. It moves us from the way of the world into the way of salvation in Christ. Receiving the blessings of Jesus as your Savior entails entering into a relationship with Jesus as your Lord.

In contrast to the transforming power of the gospel, much of today's popular religion is accommodating rather than confrontational. Worldly religions reinforce rather than challenge worldly behavior. In contrast to the world's message of indulgence, the church must continually reinforce the Lord's call to repentance.

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