



## Leaving Behind the Fear of Death

**Object Fear:** A bat boy on a carnival ride.

**The Question:** Would you get on a carnival ride if the survival rate were 0%?

**The Bad News:** *You were born on that ride. The survival rate for this life is 0%.*

**The Complicating Problem:** You cannot fix this problem yourself.

**The Solution:** Where will you put your trust for a *happy eternity*?

**Some of the Major Trust Options—out of hundreds—for a Happy Eternity:**

- **Atheism:** There is no God. At death we all cease to exist. We feel nothing.
- **Universalism:** There is a loving God. He accepts all people—no exceptions.
- **Ritualism:** There is a critical God. He accepts those people who perform.
- **Hedonism:** There is no God. Our one purpose and goal in life is pleasure.
- **Islam:** Allah is God. He accepts those who live faithfully by the 5 pillars.
- **Reincarnation:** God is one or all is one. Reborn to escape the wheel of life.
  
- **Theism:** There is one God. He paid for our sin in the death of His Son.

**Please do not miss this #1:** Each and every one of these options requires faith! No exceptions. It is not just theism that demands you to take a step of faith.

**Please do not miss this #2:** Wise people invest faith based on evidence. Faith is not opposed to evidence. Faith is opposed to sight.

**Choose your Solution:** Where will you put your trust for a happy eternity?

**Theism's Solution:** "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life." Jesus (John 14:6)

- **The Core Truth:** *Jesus did for you what you could not do for yourself.*
- **The Key Response:** *Jesus gives you forgiveness when you trust Him.*

**So:** *To leave behind the fear of death...you must put your faith in the sacrifice of Christ.*

# “Walking Papers”

Practical helps for walking the Christian walk each day this week.

**Idea:** To leave behind the fear of death...you must put your faith in the sacrifice of Christ.

- **Today:** Please read John 14:1-6. Why does Jesus address the issue of “troubled hearts” in verse one? Are there aspects of your life that are “troubled?” What does verse one offer as the antidote to “troubled hearts?”
- **Monday:** Please read John 14:1-6. In verse one we are called by Jesus to “believe in God the Father and believe in God the Son (Jesus).” In your own life do you believe that:
  - ...your sin has separated you from God?
  - ...no one gets off this “carnival ride” alive?
  - ...you cannot personally deal with the problem of 0% survival rate?
  - ...Jesus paid for your sin—did for you what you could not do for yourself?
  - ...there is nothing you can do to earn forgiveness of your sins.
  - ...God will give you forgiveness and eternal joy if you put your trust in Christ?
  - ...if you have not yet trusted Christ right now is a good time to do that?
- **Tuesday:** Please read John 14:1-6. Please list five ways that verse two offers help for a troubled heart.
- **Wednesday:** Please read John 14:1-6. How does verse three help a troubled heart?
- **Thursday:** Please read John 14:1-6. In what way is Jesus “the way” to the Father?
- **Friday:** Please read John 14:1-6. In what way is Jesus “the truth?”
- **Saturday:** Please read John 14:1-6. In what way is Jesus “the life?”

## God’s Confronting Questions:

- *Are you ready for the end of your “carnival ride?” Is there anything keeping you from trusting Christ for forgiveness of sins right now?*

**A Prayer for Eternal Forgiveness:** Dear God, I know I have sinned in many ways and that I am separated from You by my sin. I know I cannot fix this myself. I need Your forgiveness. Now, at this very moment, I place my trust for forgiveness and eternal life fully and only in Your Son Jesus Christ. Thank You for forgiving me. In Jesus’ name I pray this. Amen.

**Note for Connection Groups:** The full study guide for small group and personal study is available at: [www.cypressbible.org](http://www.cypressbible.org) and then click on “Get Connected” and the link is on that page.