

Easter 5A - 2026

"Are you sure this is the way?"

During the 2nd World War, in Malaya, a prisoner happened to escape from the prisoners' camp. He was assisted by a native fellow who led him through a thick forest and from there to freedom and back home. The native fellow walked ahead, and the man followed him from behind. With great difficulty they were finding their way through thorns and bushes, and ups and downs, and twists and turns, and the man got very tired. He then asked the native fellow, *"Are you sure this is the way?"* The native fellow looked at him, and in broken English he said, *"There is no way. I am the way. If you want to be free and go home, then you have to just follow me."*— In the same way, in the Gospel Reading of today Jesus says to us, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."* As we journey with Jesus through our earthly life in the midst of our problems and difficulties, sufferings and pains, disappointments and discouragements, stress and strain, to the House of our Heavenly Father, all we have to do is to remember we are just following Jesus. (Fr. Lakra). (<https://frtonyshomilies.com/>)

"No thanks."

Evangelist Billy Graham tells of a time during the early years of his preaching ministry when he was due to lead a crusade meeting in a town in South Carolina, and he needed to mail a letter. He asked a little boy in the main street how he could get to the post office. The boy gave him directions. Billy said, *"If you come to the Central Baptist Church tonight, I'll tell you how to get to Heaven, God the Father's house."* The boy replied, *"No thanks. You don't even know how to get to the post office, and you are going to teach me how to go to Heaven?!"*

The Wednesday Worry Box

Sometimes, if you will just wait, problems take care of themselves. J. Arthur Rank had a system for doing that. He was one of the early pioneers of the film industry in Great Britain, and he also happened to be a devout Christian. Rank found he could not push his worries out of his mind completely; they were always slipping back in. So, he finally made a pact with God to limit his worrying to Wednesday. He even made himself a little Wednesday Worry Box and he placed it on his desk. Whenever a worry cropped up, Rank wrote it out and dropped it into the Wednesday Worry Box.

Would you like to know his amazing discovery? When Wednesday rolled around, he would open that box to find that only a third of the items he had written down were still worth worrying about. The rest had managed to resolve themselves.

If you have a troubled heart, ask God to give you a new perspective. Also ask him to give you patience so that you do not jump ahead and worry about a problem that may never come. But most important of all, ask God for more faith. Faith in God is the best remedy for all our problems. Jesus put it plainly, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me."

[by King Duncan from *Collected Sermons*, adapted from Daily Bread, 11 December 1999. Cited by David Jeremiah, *Slaying The Giants In Your Life* (Nashville: W Publishing Group, 2001), pp. 67-68.]

You Know Your Master Is There

There is a story told of a dying man who asked his Christian doctor to tell him something about the place to which he was going. As the doctor fumbled for a reply, he heard a scratching at the door, and he had his answer.

"Do you hear that?" he asked his patient. "It's my dog. I left him downstairs, but he has grown impatient, and has come up and hears my voice. He has no notion what is inside this door, but he knows that I am here. Isn't it the same with you? You don't know what lies beyond the Door, but you know that your Master is there."

(by Alan Carr from *Biblical Facts about a Place Called Heaven*)