

The Big Question

Why didn't Jesus heal everyone He met?

The Gospels record that Jesus healed many people of their illnesses, disabilities, and diseases. He even resurrected people from the dead. But the Gospels never say that Jesus healed everyone He met. Nor do the Gospels record that Jesus healed people of minor problems like bad breath or baldness. Why didn't Jesus fix every problem of everyone He met?

Humanity's biggest problem is not illness, disability, or disease. It's sin. Jesus came to solve humanity's sin problem. Luke 19:10 says that Jesus came to seek and save the lost, meaning He came to save them from their sins.

Consider that every single person whom Jesus healed from blindness, deafness, and crippling diseases eventually died. None of them are still alive. All of them now reside either in Heaven or Hell. And whether they went to Heaven or Hell had nothing to do with their physical health. Their spiritual condition determined where they will spend eternity.

So, why did Jesus even bother healing people if the healing could not save them from their sins? John gives us the answer in his Gospel. He calls Jesus' miracles "signs" (John 20:30, 31). The miraculous signs revealed Jesus' power and love in magnificent ways. They helped people see that He was more than just a nice man. The signs proved Jesus is the Son of God.



Illnesses, disabilities, and diseases still plague all of humanity, but so does sin. We, like Christ, should focus on spreading the solution for sin. That means we should tell others about Christ's power and love, especially those who are suffering from the physical effects of sin (Matt. 28:18–20).

Digging Deeper

Can we trust John's Gospel?

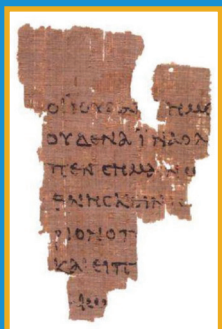
John wrote the Gospel of John somewhere between AD 80 and 95. That is nearly 2,000 years ago. So, can we trust what John wrote about Jesus' signs?

We don't have the original manuscript that John wrote, but we do have early copies of his manuscript. All copies of Scripture in John's day were handwritten. But those making the copies were extremely careful to make accurate copies.

The oldest section of the Gospel of John is the John Rylands Manuscript (pictured). Scholars believe the copy is from as early as AD 130, or less than fifty years after John's original manuscript. The two-sided piece contains parts of John 18:31–33, 37, 38. In that passage, Jesus said He was born into the world to testify to the truth. He did so through signs and teaching! We can trust His testimony as recorded by John. God preserved His Word through thousands of manuscripts. Never doubt God's Word. It is God's truth!

Ponder Points

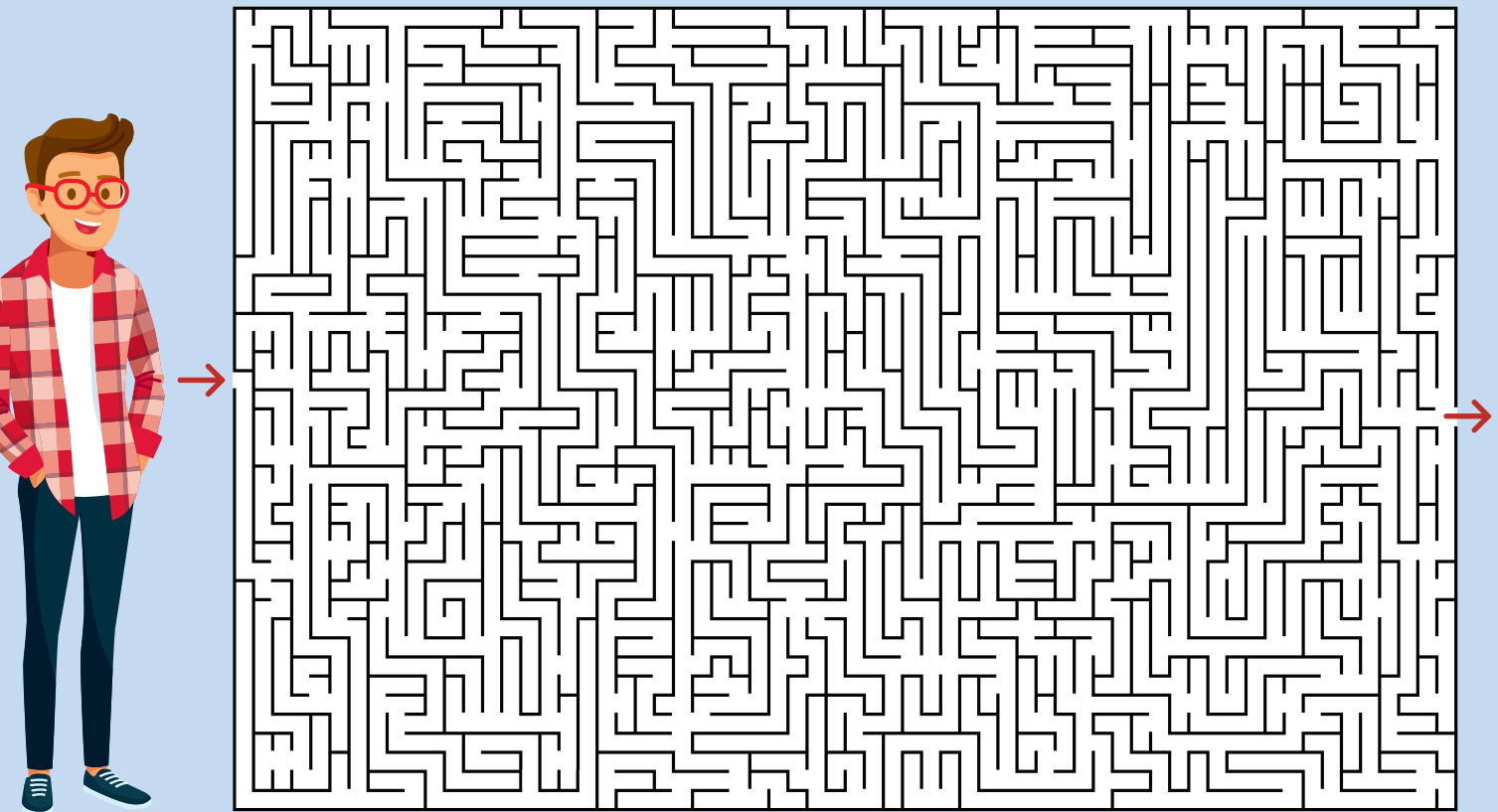
1. Describe your trust in God's Word, particularly the Gospel of John.
2. How should you respond to God's sure Word?



John Rylands
Library Papyrus P52

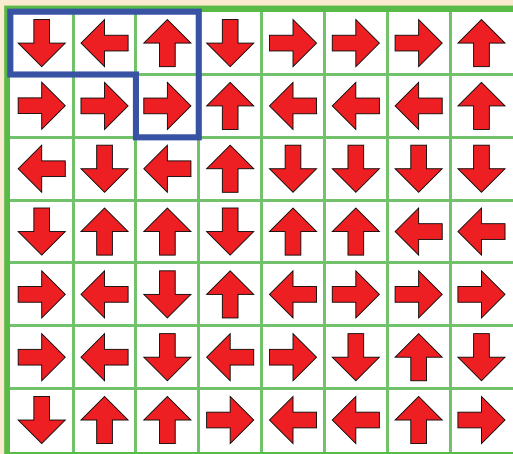
Show the Way

Solve the maze by drawing a line along the correct path. Jesus' life showed the way to salvation. John wrote about Him so we might know for sure we have eternal life!



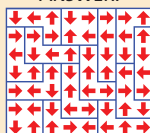
Connect 4 Arrows

There are 14 sets of arrows in this puzzle. In each set, there is an arrow facing up, down, left, and right. Draw a line around each set. The first set is done for you.



Jesus is the one way to the Father.
The miraculous signs He did helped
reveal He is the Son of God.

ANSWER:



Measuring Growth



The Junior lesson for this week covered John's purpose for writing his Gospel. He recorded Jesus' signs, or miracles, so his readers would believe in Jesus for eternal life. Your child was challenged to consider whether he or she is trusting in Jesus for salvation. Talk with your child about the measurables.

Measurables

Look for the following indicators that your child is secure in his or her salvation.

1. My child has no doubts about his or her salvation.
2. My child shares his or her testimony with others.
3. My child's spiritual growth shows he or she has been saved.



STRONG
kids