

# RADICAL THE BOOK

BY DAVID PLATT

## CHAP. 7 THERE IS NO PLAN B

Jn. 14:1-6

Supporting Passages Mt. 9:35-38 Rom.10:11-14

Invite learners to name the most popular talk show host who comes to their mind. Explain that one, if not the, most popular talk show hosts of all time is **Oprah Winfrey**. Say: **Professing to be very religious and in tune with spirituality, she boasts not of God but of spirituality in general.** Point out a short search on [www.oprah.com/spirit](http://www.oprah.com/spirit) website will show you contributors from multiple religions, personal experience articles from individuals touting their inner godliness, articles seeking to multiply your happiness, instructions on meditation, and “experts” to whom you can send your spiritual soul questions. Inform learners Oprah also produced a popular web series on **Eckhart Tolle’s** book, *A New Earth*. Read the following quote about his teachings: **“At the core of his teachings lies the transformation of consciousness—a spiritual awakening that he sees as the next step in human evolution. An essential aspect of this awakening consists of transcending our ego-based state of consciousness.”**

Point out Oprah is a highly popular and influential person in society. Ask: **What does her association with the website and her endorsement of Eckhart Tolle indicate about her religious beliefs?** Encourage learners to attempt to describe what they believe may be her beliefs. Ask: **Why do we want to believe, like Oprah, that all religions and spirituality are basically the same? If we don’t believe this way, how do we live as if we do believe like Oprah?** Encourage learners to share their thoughts. Then explain that today we will explore why we cannot live that way.

David says in his book that there are 4.5 billion people in the world w/o Christ and more than a billion have never even heard the name of Christ. Two weeks ago Tom and Carol came over after class and the topic of conversation was what about the people who have never even heard the name of Christ, those 1 billion people. If you remember Jim’s sermon from Feb. 20 Rom chap 1: 19-20 says that God is made known in creation whether you look up through a telescope and see the whirlpool galaxy or you look down through a microscope and see the structure of the protein Laminin you see Christ and man is w/o excuse. (Insert slides of Whirlpool and Laminin).

After Jesus had completed the Lord’s Supper and the foot washing service He told the disciples again that He would be leaving and that he would die **(12:32-33;13:33,36)**. What was the purpose of the foot washing service? To teach the disciples in rather dramatic fashion the true nature of the KOG, it was one of service not of power and prestige. Later he told them that one was a traitor, that Peter would disown Him 3 times, that Satan was at work against them **(Lk22:31-32)** and that all of them would fall away at one point or another **(Mt. 26:31)**. By the time we reach chapter 14 in the Gospel of John the disciples are troubled to say the least.

**I. Jesus Charges His Followers to Remain in His Truth & Mission**

Jn. 14:1-2

Jesus' admonition to His disciples not to let their hearts be troubled implies that they already were troubled. They did not understand His continued references to leaving their physical presence. Jesus stated that their faith in Him would see them through and that they did not need to worry.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. What are some barriers to sharing Christ? Rules in workplace, ridicule from others
2. What barriers are actual barriers and which ones are perceived?
3. What are some ways we try to be politically correct in a conversation instead of truthful? Why do we act that way?

**II. Christ's Followers Can Expect to Live With Him Eternally** Jn. 14:3

Jesus was not leaving for good. His death burial and resurrection was only the beginning. In the end days he would take His Church away and bring judgment on the world. 1 Thess, 4:13-18.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. What is the greatest truth to you about Vs. 3? Maybe not the dwelling but the presence of God we are returning to the garden.
2. What does David say that "practical universalism" is? Pg. 142.

**III. God Provided Jesus as The Only Way to be in Relationship with God and Live with Him Eternally**

Jn. 14:4-6

Thomas voiced the confusion and concern really of the whole group. He was unsure exactly where Jesus was going. Although Jesus provided an answer they would not fully understand until the coming of the Holy Spirit. They had all the information they just couldn't put it all together. Much like the second coming we have all the information we just cannot put it all together until the end times are upon us. **Dan. 12:9**

Jesus then presented the 5<sup>th</sup> "I am" statement "I am the way the truth and the life no man comes to the Father but through me". See Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:5

REVIEW Pg 158-159 about Coca-Cola Is the remarkable world-wide marketing powers of Coca-Cola an indictment against the Church for our lack of world-wide marketing? How should we feel about this situation?

READ Rom. 1:18-23 What does God reveal through creation? (His invisible attributes, eternal power and divine nature) Every person has no excuse not to follow Him.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. What does this passage tell us about God, Humankind and Salvation?  
Possible answers: for *God*: He is separate from and unreachable by humankind; He requires Jesus to be the mediator between humankind and Himself; and He has revealed the way to have a relationship with Him. Identify the following answers for *Humankind*: People are separated from God; people are incapable of reaching God themselves; and the way of salvation has been revealed to them.  
Signify the following answers for *Salvation*: There is only one way to God; Salvation is only possible through Jesus; Jesus is the only way, the only fulfillment of Scripture, and the only source of eternal life.
2. What happens to the guy in Africa who never hears about Jesus?  
Scripture says all w/o Christ all are destined for hell. This thought often makes us feel uncomfortable about God; we question His goodness. Look up verse on crying in heaven wipe away all tears. **Rev 7:17, 21:4** See pg 141.
3. How do we live as if there are more ways to salvation than Christ?
4. Why do we feel we must accept other religions as truth?

SHOW VIDEO How does understanding there are no innocent ones in the world affect our understanding of those who don't know Jesus.