

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For week of October 18, 2020

MY STORY

If you were writing the script, what would God’s redemptive plan look like?

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back at this week’s teaching, was there a particular point, verse or comment that caught your attention, challenged you, or raised a question?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Jim said “Jesus is love.” What do you think the person on the street would understand that to mean? What does Jesus mean?

Matt. 5:43-44; 22:38-39

John 13:34-35; 14:15, 21

2. Many people see God as one who is quick to judge and condemn them. Why is that? How can we help change their perception?

John 3:16-17

Romans 5:8

1 John 4:10

3. How is “an act of faith” different from “believing in God”?

4. Jesus said that we prefer darkness to light (John 3:19-21). Why? What changes our minds?

John 6:44; 12:32; 16:7-11

TAKING IT HOME

John 3:16 is a very positive verse but there is a very negative word in it. Why is it important not to downplay that word?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- _____

- _____

- _____

Tips on Group Prayer

Prayer is an important part of being in a Small Group. We've found that group prayer goes better when we follow three simple guidelines:

WE PRAY FOR ONE TOPIC AT A TIME

Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request. Once a request is introduced, the group focuses on that request. Once it's covered, the group moves on to the next topic.

PRAY MORE THAN ONCE

Because the group is focusing on one topic at a time, each person is encouraged to pray several times during the prayer time for those topics they feel most led to pray about. No one is required to pray out loud.

WE KEEP OUR PRAYERS SHORT & SIMPLE

Group prayer goes better when members keep their prayers short and to the point. When someone prays for a long time, it's hard for the other members to stay focused, and long prayers tend to intimidate those who are just learning to pray out loud in a group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missionaries of the Month Please pray for Ryan and Julie Christian, as they seek to provide counsel and encouragement to missionaries throughout the world.

Upcoming Prayer Vigil Join us Tuesday evening, October 20th, any time between 6 and 8pm for a time to pray and be encouraged.



The Gospel of John---That You May Believe *The Love and Light of Jesus*

John 3:16-21 (ESV) Jim Vandermeer October 18, 2020

The Great Why of Scripture

Why did God choose to redeem His creation like He did?
John 3:16—"The entire gospel in one verse"--reveals the Father's heart and gives us the answer.

I Jesus is _____

God's Acts—He *loved*, He *gave*, so that *we wouldn't die*.

Jesus' Purpose—Not to *condemn*, but to *redeem*.

An Act of Faith—Our simple act of faith saves us because God is *perfect* and He is *just*.

II Jesus is _____

Light has come.

We love the Dark, because our *Works are Evil*.

Light *Exposes* Sin.

Light *Reveals* Truth.