

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For week of September 13, 2020

MY STORY

Remember those **John 3:16** banners that people would hold up at football games? What was that about and how effective do you think they were?

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. Pastor Kirk (and Jesus!) said that John the Baptist was the greatest messenger—Mt. 11:7-11.

- How so? What was it about John that made Jesus describe him that way?
- Large numbers and all kinds of people were listening to John’s message. That’s a good thing, but it can also be dangerous. Why is that?
- Would “witness” or “messenger” be a fitting description for you? What do those terms look like today?
- It’s been said, “If you’re going to speak as a prophet, be prepared to be treated like a prophet”. Mt. 13:54-57. Does that give you pause about speaking out for Jesus?

2. John’s message was: Jesus is the *Lamb of God*. What did he mean by that? Did his listeners “get it”? Gen. 22:1-14

- Lambs and other animals were regularly sacrificed for people’s sins at the Temple. What made Jesus’ sacrifice different? How does His sacrifice give us hope?
- John the Baptist said that Jesus would “baptize with the Holy Spirit”. How was that different than John’s baptism?

3. John’s purpose was to bring people to Jesus—God’s Son. How does one “come to Jesus”? How would you characterize your commitment to Jesus?

TAKING IT HOME

How are you pointing other people’s attention to Jesus as you go about your daily life? What opportunities exist for you to tell people about Jesus?

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

Missionary of the Mont Please pray for Tim & Heidi Olson, our missionaries in Romania.

Wood Cutting Day Join us this Saturday, September 19th, for a day of chopping & splitting wood. Behind the youth home, 9am plus lunch.

Small Group Sign-ups are happening now! Fill out your connection card and let us know you're interested and we'll get you in a group.



The Gospel of John---That You May Believe

It's all about Jesus

John 1:19-34 (ESV) Kirk Greenstreet September 13, 2020

I John, the Greatest Messenger 1:19-28

- A. John was a living witness...as are we.
- B. John didn't focus attention on himself...and neither should we.
- C. John was the voice that presented Jesus...as we should.

II John's Message: Behold the Lamb of God 1:29-34

- A. Jesus is the Lamb of God. The *Passover* Lamb
- B. Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit
- C. Jesus is God, the Son