



SMALL GROUP HOMEWORK

For August 30, 2020

MY STORY

Growing up, what was your view of Jesus?

Did it affect how you related to Him?

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. John’s gospel describes Jesus as the divine WORD.

- Why does John call Jesus “the Word”? What does this title tell us about Jesus?
- Describe the connection between Genesis 1:1 and John 1:1. How does this connection show a distinction between Jesus and creation?
- Based on this passage, how would you answer someone who says, “I believe that Jesus is just a great teacher.”?

2. Jesus’ purpose was to give Light and Life to mankind.

- What do you think the world would look like if Jesus had not brought the light of the gospel?
- Jesus ascended to Heaven while John was still alive and we await his return. How does the world receive His light and life in the meantime? Mt. 5:14-16 1 Jn 1:2-4
- Who do you know who needs the light and life of Jesus?

TAKING IT HOME

We’re living in troubled times—Covid, hurricanes & fires, political unrest and violent protests in our cities. At times, we can feel overwhelmed by anxiety, fear, or isolation. How does the picture of Jesus as a light shining in the darkness speak to you in those circumstances?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Tips on Group Prayer

Prayer is an important part of being in a Growth 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 Month—Please continue to pray for Carlos and Xinia Rojas, our missionaries in Costa Rica.

Women's Bible Studies—You can sign up on the church website or call Adina at the church office: 687-9444

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 *Jesus the WORD*

John 1:1-5 (ESV) Kirk Greenstreet – August 30, 2020

Introduction

John and his brother James fished with their father on the Sea of Galilee about 70 miles north of Jerusalem. Before he was a disciple of Jesus, he was a disciple of John the Baptist and learned much about the coming Messiah. John left John the Baptist to follow Jesus and walked with Him for almost 3 ½ years. He was in the inner circle of Jesus' disciples with Peter and James. Instead of referring to himself by name in this gospel, he calls himself, "The disciple whom Jesus loved."

John wrote this book sometime between 85 and 95 AD. He is one of the last surviving eyewitnesses of Jesus and wrote this gospel while he was doing ministry in Ephesus. John also wrote 1, 2, 3 John and Revelation during this time.

I Jesus is the Divine WORD of God 1:1-3

- A. He is eternally preexistent
- B. He is in eternal relationship with the Father
- C. He IS God
- D. He is the Creator of the Universe

II Jesus came to give us Light and Life 1:4-5