

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For the week of April 25, 2021

MY STORY

If you could 'rewrite' this part of Jesus' life, what would it look like? How would you change it?

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

How would you define unbelief? Is there a difference between unbelief and doubt?

What are reasons that people reject the gospel of Jesus?

Can you have belief in Jesus apart from accepting and believing the Word of God?

How does John make clear that the unbelief of the people is not for lack of evidence or signs from Jesus?

Why was the Jewish people's unbelief necessary?

How does Acts 28:26-28 shed light on why God would not open the hearts of many Jews to believe in Jesus?

How has it been a struggle for you in your life to admit your belief in Jesus to others? Have you ever been a reluctant, silent Christian? How could these passages help?
Romans 1:16, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Could this passage (John 12:37-50) be used to excuse Christians from sharing the gospel with others?
Why or why not?

When you give your views on one of today's moral or social issues, do you base your authority on your wisdom or God's Word? Give an example.

PRAYER REQUEST

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 Jeff & Mary Townsend as they serve with International Students.

Prayer Gathering – Join us TONIGHT at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center as we come together in prayer before the throne of our great God.



The Gospel of John: That You May Believe ***Unbelief***

John 12:37-50 (ESV) Kirk Greenstreet April 25, 2021

I Why did the Jews not believe in Jesus?

- It was the fulfillment of prophecy.
- Their rejection of God hardened their hearts.

II Some struggle to admit their belief.

- We are not to be ashamed of Jesus.
- We need to see and live the glory of Christ.

III Reasons why people should believe.

- Jesus has come as God's messenger.
- Jesus has revealed God to us.
- His mission was to lift us out of darkness.

IV Unbelief will eventually result in judgment.

- We should realize that there will be a "last day."
- Jesus is the Savior.

V Jesus's justification comes from the Father.

- Like Jesus, we speak the word of God.
- Like Jesus, we speak on the authority of God.