

ICEBREAKER

What is the first verse you ever memorized or would like to memorize? Share it with the group.

CONTEXT

In this passage, we see a continuation of the conversation with Nicodemus. We also read one of the most well-known verses in the Bible, John 3:16. This verse has been used everywhere from churches to football and wrestling events. It is important to see John 3:16 in context as Jesus shares about the heart of God for the World.

PASSAGE

John 3:16-21

DISCUSS

Slowly reread John 3:16. What words stand out to you the most and why?

What is needed to have eternal life? Does that feel too simple? Why?

Read Ezekiel 18:32, 1 Timothy 2:4 and 2 Peter 3:9. What do these verses combined

DISCUSS CONTINUED

with John 3:16 tell us about God? How does that impact your view of God?

Read Matthew 5:14-16. Here Jesus says we are the light of the world. How is that possible?

Read John 3:17-20. In a world that strives to be all-inclusive, the idea that belief in Jesus is the only way to God flies in the face of "you do you". Is this an idea that you struggle with? Why or why not?

NEXT STEPS

Living in a world that loves darkness rather than light is a daily challenge to believers.

As a group talk about the last time you shared the gospel with someone. Was it difficult to do? Why or why not?

Ask those that share more frequently what has helped them be bold in their faith. For more resources on sharing the gospel individually, check out the two books below.



MORE RESOURCES:

"People need to be deeply affected by the incredible news of Jesus on a daily basis. What affects you greatly creates in you great affections. And those affections lead you to express verbally and physically what you love most, because you talk about what you love. Furthermore, you love what you talk about. And we all talk about what most affects us—what most powerfully works to create change in our lives."

Reading suggestion: Gospel Fluency: Speaking the Truths of Jesus into the Everyday Stuff of Life By Jeff Vanderstelt

"From the very beginning, God's way of reaching and restoring the world has always been through what I would call a blessing strategy...how do we in a very practical way that's theologically grounded explain to people how they could bless people in places they are incarnating? We came up with this... B- Begin with prayer. We want you to ask, 'God how do you want me to bless the people in the places you've sent me to?' L- Listen. Don't talk, but listen to people, their struggles, their pains, in the places God sent you. E- Eat. You can't just check this off. It's not quick. You have to have a meal with people or a cup of coffee. It builds relationships. S- Serve. If you listen with people and you eat with people they will tell you how to love them and you'll know how to serve them. S- Story. When the time is right, now we talk and we share the story of how Jesus changed our life. Genesis 12:2-3 says, "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Reading suggestion: BLESS: 5 Everyday Ways to Love Your Neighbor and Change the World By Dave Ferguson, Jon Ferguson