



Believe

JOHN

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Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: John 1:1-18

Ask one person to pray at the beginning of your meeting.

Check-in

Check in with each other about how everyone is doing.

Bible Reading: John 1:10-18

Sermon Summary:

There are two things to consider in this section. First, many of us need help to understand the structure of the Prologue (Jn. 1:1-18). In 1:1-13, John anchors the life of Jesus in Genesis 1, & we see Jesus as God's Word bringing light into darkness. Then in 1:14-18, John retells the same story but this time from the book of Exodus, & specifically God dwelling among his people in the Tabernacle (Ex. 25:8). Second, whether Jesus comes as Light or to dwell among people, the question is, "How will people respond to him?" In John 1:11-13, we read of the majority of people rejecting Jesus as the true Light, and only a few receive/believe him. Later, John encourages us to not only believe in Jesus, but to continue to receive from him as we journey with him (Jn. 1:16-17).

Discussion:

1. Identify the words that John uses to anchor these verses in both Genesis & Exodus.
2. John 1:10-13 speaks about some who rejected Jesus and others who received him. Talk about your own experiences of initial salvation. Did you reject Jesus at first? What did it take for you to receive Jesus as Saviour?
3. Why does John give us a list of things that do not make us children of God? What is the only thing that qualifies us to be God's children?
4. Andreas Kostenberger: *“The Word was made flesh’ takes John 1:1 one step further: that same Word now has been born as a human being...John’s message is that the incarnation represents an event of equal importance with creation.”* Talk about the importance between God creating and God becoming flesh. Think about the wonder you experience when you see majestic mountains and waterfalls, colourful fish and birds. What about God becoming flesh?
5. Talk with one another about helpful ways that you have found that help you to keep receiving more and more grace as you walk through life.

End with Prayer.

- Pray each of us receives the Light Jesus brings to us, & the grace to keep growing.
- Pray for one another's needs