



Believe

JOHN

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Community Group Material:

Bible Reading: John 3:13-21

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 3:13-21

Sermon Summary:

What is God's salvation based upon? John 3:16 tells us it's Love! His love is not a feeling that waxes & wanes depending on our behaviour. His love is a commitment to us & is steadfast, because love is who God is (1 Jn. 4:8b). God has always been love. It wasn't something he decided to do in the New Testament. But unfortunately that's how many people think about God. They think the God of the Old Testament was a mean & angry judge just waiting for them to mess up so he could strike them down. But the OT does not at all present God in this way. His love extends from the first page to the last of the entire Bible. God loves the world so much that he gave his very best to us, his very own Son who brought us eternal life. His coming presents each of us with a critical moment of decision, though. Will we accept his offer of salvation?

Discussion:

1. What is your understanding of the 'water' mentioned in John 3:5?
2. Talk about the principle of reading the Bible as a document that was 'written **for** us, but not **to** us'. How should this principle help our understanding of what we read? How does it provide a safeguard for us as we read?
3. What does 'God is Love' mean? (1 Jn. 4:8b) What are the implications of this verse?
4. Is the God of the Old Testament different from Jesus? Talk about how people have this concept of God & what that means for them. How can you help them?
5. Nicodemus was taught that only Jews would enter God's Kingdom. But God made it clear that Jesus came to save all people. How does Jn. 3:16 parallel Gen. 12:3?
6. What is eternal life? When does it begin? Have you experienced it?
7. Read 1 Jn. 4:9-10 & 19. Talk about who was the one who initiated salvation.

End with Prayer.

- Pray in thankfulness to God for his deep commitment of love to all people.
- Pray for people in your life who you'd like them to know God.