

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: BELIEVE

Message: The World's Greatest Message

Speaker: Jay Haugh

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Memory Verse: John 13:34-35 NIV

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Eternal life is obtained by faith in Jesus. It's believing in Him, not achieving for Him.

Read John 3:1-21

1. Nicodemus was drawn to Jesus but approached Him at night (v 2), perhaps because he was hesitant to be seen with Jesus publicly. What might keep people today from seeking Jesus openly? How can we create space for people like this to feel comfortable and more open about their interest in Jesus?
2. Jesus spoke of being "born again," a concept that can be unfamiliar or confusing at first (vv 3-4). How can we communicate spiritual truths with clarity to those who are not familiar with Christian doctrine? How would you explain spiritual rebirth to someone who's never heard of it?
3. Nicodemus struggled to understand what Jesus was saying, even though he was a knowledgeable teacher of Israel (v 10). Can you relate to knowing something is true about God in your mind but still struggling to trust it in your heart? Why do you think that gap between head knowledge and heart belief can be so hard to bridge? Is there a specific promise or truth about God that you're wrestling with right now?



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4. Jesus references a moment from Israel's history (Numbers 21:4–9) where looking at a bronze snake brought healing. Jesus now uses this imagery to describe His mission (vv 14-15). Why do you think Jesus chose this particular historical event as an illustration for Nicodemus, a teacher of Israel? What might Nicodemus have understood from this reference? When you think about being healed or made whole by Jesus, what part of your life comes to mind first?
5. John 3:16 is one of the most well-known verses in the Bible, yet its familiarity can cause us to overlook its depth. What stands out to you when you slow down and reflect on this verse? When thinking of God's love for the world, how does it make you feel that this love includes not just your neighbors and friends, but also includes criminals, terrorists, abusers, those with opposing views, people of other religions, or those who mock Christianity? How does understanding who God loves better help you love?
6. Jesus shares that God did not send His Son to condemn the world, but to save it (v 17). Do you ever find yourself focusing more on judgment than grace when thinking about others or even yourself? How can embracing this truth impact the way you talk about Jesus with someone who feels ashamed or unworthy?
7. Jesus states that light has come into the world, but people loved darkness because their deeds were evil (vv 19-21). As a group or as individuals, how can we create an environment where people feel safe enough to bring their hidden struggles and questions into the light, rather than keeping them in the dark?
8. When we live our life for God we want our actions to be a declaration about the One we follow (v 21). What does it look like to live in such a way that your life reflects God's work in you? How might someone's actions reveal their relationship (or lack of relationship) with God? What tensions do you feel living a life where your actions are open to scrutiny and are visibly done for God?



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