

Dig Deeper @Home – “Jesus Alone”

Complement to lesson on 09/12/21 – “God in the Flesh”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What extinct animal would you love to see in person?
2. Finish this sentence: If I could go anywhere, I would go ...

MEMORIZE – John 5: 39-40

“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.”

READ – John 1: 1-18

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read these passages?
What sticks out to you?
 - a. What general observations can you make about the Christian life? Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
2. John begins with the phrase “In the beginning.” These three words also begin the book of Genesis. Go back and read Genesis 1: 1-5
 - a. How does knowing Genesis 1: 1-5 impact how you read John 1: 1-18?
 - b. How does knowing John 1: 1-18 impact how you read Genesis 1: 1-5?
 - c. What is so important about John beginning his biography with Jesus with creation?
3. Read verses 7 and 18 again.
 - a. According to verse 7, why was John sent?
 - b. According to verse 18, why was Jesus sent?
 - c. Now read John 20:21. What does Jesus say about our being sent?
 - d. If you are a sent one, are you living like it? How could you more intentionally live like a sent one this week?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – What’s Missing?

Set up a game to play with your family, your spouse, a group of friends. The game is your choice: board game, card game, video game. Gather the group around the game and explain the game. Then tell them you are all going to walk away, do something else (like get snacks or drinks together) and check back in on the game in a little bit. Ask them who they think will be winning when you check back on the game. When you look back on the game (and nothing has changed) act really surprised and be dramatic about it. Everyone will look at you confused at this point. But ask these questions anyway.

1. Is this what you expected to see when we got back?
2. Why hasn’t anything changed in the game? What was missing?

The answers are pretty obvious. Nothing changed because no one was there to play the game. You all left. Game pieces can’t move themselves, cards cannot shuffle themselves and basketballs cannot bounce and shoot themselves into the basket. People need to be present. The fancy word is “incarnate.” Now bring this all back to John 1: 1-18. Jesus came in the flesh (incarnated) and so did John (v6-8). Both of them were sent (John 20:21) and Jesus says that all his followers are sent. Are you living like it? What needs to change for you to live more intentionally as a sent representative of Jesus to the places you live, work and play?

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

God with Us - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udJjT-LMnIs>

King of Heaven - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5h8laPe1NVM>

What a Beautiful Name - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5L6QIAH3L4>

O Word of God Incarnate – Mennonite Hymnal #219 –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQyDePlgGKM>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending blessing:

Go this week believing in Jesus and thus being a child of God sent to do His will. As you have received grace in abundance so offer grace in abundance. As you have received the truth so freely share the truth, freely and full of grace with all those you meet where you live, work and play.