

Week 4

Small Group

1. Ask what they got out of reading from the last week. (5 Minutes)

2. Beginning Discussion Questions (5-10 Minutes):

1. As you read Luke did you see how he focused on the social outcasts and poor?

3. Video: Week 3 (11:12):

Authorship: Believed to be Apostle John.

Date: 80's or 90's

Place of Writing: Ephesus

Original intended Audience: General Audience

Purpose: To introduce Jesus Christ to people as their personal Savior.

Theme: Jesus: The divine Son of God.

Seven things John cared about:

1. God loved the World and sent us his Son.
2. Jesus is the Christ (Messiah), God the Son.
3. Jesus fulfilled the Old Covenant and brought in the New Covenant.
4. Jesus is the only way to God.
5. This way is open to all.
6. Entrance is by faith in Jesus.
7. Jesus wants us to share our faith with others.

Key terms in John's Gospel

1. The Word (logs = reason, communication)
2. Believe: In his gospel, John uses the verb "to believe" 98 times but never uses the noun form (belief/faith) to emphasize that faith is not a creed to agree with but a life to be lived. True faith is a relationship of obedience.
3. Send:
 - God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, He sent the Son to save the World, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to help us, Jesus sends us as his ambassadors.
 - This use of "sent" reflects the Jewish concept of where the sent one has the same authority as the sender and does the will of the sender.
4. Light vs. Darkness: Light is contrasted with darkness
 - Light was from the beginning (1:1-4)
 - Light expels darkness (1:5)
 - Men love darkness and flee light (3:19)
 - Light (truth) Reveals sin (evil) and judges it (3:20)
 - Jesus is the True light for all mankind (8:12)
5. Love
 - The Father loved the Son (3:35)
 - The Father loved the World (3:16)
 - Jesus loved his own (13:1,34)
 - We are to love one another (13:34,35)
 - The proof we love God is our obedience (14:15,23,24)

No Parable in John's gospel but here records seven "I am":

1. Bread of Life
2. Light of the World
3. Door
4. Good Shepherd
5. Resurrection and the Life
6. Way, Truth and Life
7. True Vine

John records only 20 days in Jesus Ministry and one third of John's Gospel deals with just one day.

Only John records Jesus Intercessory Prayer for His disciples and us.

4. Go over and discuss notes from the video with group (5- 7 minutes)

5. Questions from the Video (5-10 Minutes):

1. How does John 3:16 really bring the whole bible together in this verse?
2. What did you learn about John from the video?

6. Discuss what they are hoping to get out of the reading this week (3-5 Minutes)

7. Prayer (5 Minutes)

- Take prayer requests.
- Pray together as a group.