



Connect: LIFEgroup discussion guide

a Christian community of fresh hope

INTEGRITY: Jesus is the only Way

Sun 21st Nov 2021

WELCOME: Last week's message considered the consequences of what can happen "when the truth gets lost." It was suggested that God set eternity in the hearts of humanity, but we all "miss the mark" ("sin") and lose sight of the truth. Jesus returned to restore the truth to us and reveals that God's wrath is an anger that brings a heat, with the intention of causing people to turn to God ("repent.")

- **In what ways is our world impacted by the lack of the presence of God?**
- **How do you think Christians could impact the world as carriers of God's presence?**
- **What could Connect do in our community to make a positive change?**

DISCUSSING THE MESSAGE:

This week's message continues to consider Integrity, in light of Jesus being the only way to relationship with our heavenly Father.

1. JESUS IS THE WAY

Read John 14:1-14

- **Have you ever felt/ been lost? When? How did you find your way?**
- **People claim there are many ways to God. Jesus says HE is THE Way! How do you respond to this?**

Jesus says "no one comes to the Father but by me"

2. JESUS IS THE TRUTH

- **How does the concept of "personal truth," (where people say "that is what you believe and this is what I believe,") make it difficult to speak absolute truth?**

Note that Jesus' claim is that he is THE Truth, not A truth.

Read John 8:32

Jesus says, "you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

- **Does he mean that any "truth" will set people free?**
- **What sort of things do we add to the truth – Jesus + Culture or Jesus + Church e.g. "you need Jesus and you need to go to church," or "you need Jesus and devotional time...?"**

Jesus says, 78 times in the gospels, "I tell you the truth".

- **How do we determine the truth?**

3. JESUS IS THE LIFE

Romans 6:23 says everyone has sinned and falls short of God's perfect standard- the result of sin is death... BUT the free gift of God is eternal LIFE through Jesus Christ. It is hard to imagine sometimes that without Jesus we are dead.

Read John 8:36

LIFE is freedom to live as we were designed to. Jesus offers us that gift.

- **Have you ever had to fashion a tool to do a job? How much better to have the right tool for the job?**
- **In what ways is it good to live in that sweet spot of "as we were designed"?**
- **Have there been times what you have felt that you have been living in the sweet spot of being the person God designed you to be, or times when you've felt out of balance?**
- **Can we really be restored to Garden of Eden relationship with God by our own doing?**
- **If Jesus is the only way to God, what does that mean in the way we operate our lives day to day?**

Our response:

Consider the mess of the world we live in, consider how this must impact the heart of God who loves the world so much that he sent the beloved Son.

If Jesus truly is THE WAY how are we living that demonstrates that we see THE WAY and are going THE WAY?

If Jesus truly is THE TRUTH how are we living that demonstrates that we know THE TRUTH and are telling THE TRUTH?

If Jesus truly is THE LIFE how are we living that demonstrates that we recognise THE LIFE and are living THE LIFE?

For many of those we love who don't have a relationship with God through Jesus, they need us to live our lives consistently being who God has designed us to be. One of the ways that they can encounter the way, the truth and the life is to see us walking on the way, telling the truth and living the life.

Pray together:

Pray for the strength, encouragement and empowering of the Holy Spirit to walk the way, tell the truth and live the life.

Pray for your friends, family and connections who need to know that;

- Jesus is the way to success in life now and forever
- Jesus is the truth in all situations and circumstances
- Jesus is the life that every human seeks to settle our hearts in right relationship with our Father

Pray for Connect Church and for our leadership team to truly be who God has called them to be.

Have a great week Connect!