

The Abiding Life

Discussion Guide

Week of October 29 - **"That You May Know"**

Scripture verse: 1 John 5:6-11

LOOKING BACK:

Last week... we were challenged to seek out a person who was hard to love and attempt to have a conversation that might lead to reconciliation. How did you do at accomplishing this? What difficulty did you experience trying to do this? If you were able to have the discussion, how did it go? What were the results?

OPENING QUESTION:

This week the verses we read speak of believing in Jesus. If you were explaining to a child "believe in the Son who has given us eternal life," what would you say? Use your entire group to form your explanation.

LOOKING UP:

Read 5:6-9

1. What is meant by water and blood in these two verses? (possible answers--Jesus' baptism and crucifixion; the blood and water that poured out of His side at His death)
2. The Law required 2 or more witnesses for testimony in a criminal case. Why do you think John made sure to include the 3 "witnesses" that he did? (possible answers--the Spirit was present at Jesus' baptism confirming Him as the Christ,

water because Jesus' baptism was Him showing the significance of purification through cleansing of our sins, and the blood shed at His death is proof of His atoning sacrifice.)

3. "Truth" is mentioned all around us in the news, politicians, professors, and social media. Yet, it's hard to discern what is truth... that is truth that can be trusted. Why is the Spirit Truth that can be trusted? How can we verify truth?

Read 5:10-12

4. Can you recall when you fully believed the statement from 11b--God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son? Share your remembrance of that. (If you have someone in your group who has not accepted this statement, allow him or her to express what may be causing the reluctance .

READ THE PASSAGE
1 John 5:6-12

Answer the first 2 questions after reading the passage

1. What stood out to you most?
2. What was challenging or hard to understand?
3. What does this teach us about God?
4. What does this teach us about people?

RE-READ THE PASSAGE

Read the passage again using another Bible translation... then answer the last 2 questions

LOOKING FORWARD:

1. Spend time praying quietly (1-2 minutes) focusing your attention on being thankful for the truth we read from God's word. Remember, the Bible was God breathed

through the Spirit. We get to learn of God's love for us and understand who God is all in the same book - the Bible.

2. While praying also listen to the Holy Spirit. Ask the Spirit of truth to reveal someone, especially a loved one, who has not surrendered his/her allegiance to Jesus Christ. Have a mock conversation with another group member trying to walk through what you would say. Then plan to meet that someone this week.