

Small Group and Personal Bible Study Guide

This Weeks Memory Verse: John 11:25 & 26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

This Weeks Lesson: John 4:42

We witness in John 4:39 and specifically in verse 42 that people coming face to face with Jesus causes one to believe and acknowledge Him as the savior of world. This week our study is focusing on getting people to come face to face with Jesus.

Small Group Questions:

1. How can you help bring people face to face with Jesus?

Allow people to share their ideas on bringing people to Christ. The key points to remember is that God must draw them. Therefore evangelism should always start in prayer. Billy Graham, the greatest evangelist of our time has always had a consistent practice of having people pray over a city for months before a crusade. Review Tim's points from the past two weeks to discuss how to reach those that are lost.

2. What is the biggest challenge you face in bringing people to see Jesus?

Allow people to share their fears, road blocks, weaknesses.

3. Share your own experience in coming to Christ. What was the turning point for you to see Jesus face to face and believe in Him?

Allow each person time to share how they came face to face with Jesus. Remind them that as they have done this in the group, they have literally shared their story (their testimony) and that is one of the most powerful tools God has given you in reaching people for Christ.

In His famous book, *Mere Christianity*, C.S.Lewis makes an argument that leaves us with the conclusion that Jesus was a liar, a lunatic, or the Lord. The only way a person can come to a real truth on this matter is to seek Him face to face and decide for themselves.

Among Pantheists, like the Indians, anyone might say that he was a part of God, or one with God: there would be nothing very odd about it. But this man, since He was a Jew, could not mean that kind of God. God, in their language, meant the Being outside the world who had made it and was infinitely different than anything else. And when you have grasped that, you will see that what this man said was, quite simply, the most shocking thing that has ever been uttered by human lips... I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him, "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic - on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg - or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. From C.S. Lewis' , *Mere Christianity* Macmillan Publishing Co, New York, NY. Copyright 1952.

Review the readings this week and how important it is to know who Jesus claimed to be. Take some time to discuss Jesus Christ and ensure your group understands who he is (Lord and Savior of the World) and how important fact really is. He is not just a great teacher or prophet or just great leader or a good man. To settle for such a belief is to deny who he is. The one and only true God, one with the Father. Living in us as the Holy Spirit.

This Weeks Reading Schedule: This week we are going to really look at who Jesus claimed to be.

Day 1: He claimed to live a sinless life, John 8:28-29, John 8:46-47

Day 2: He claimed to be the ONLY way to God, John 14:6, Matthew 11:27

Day 3: He claimed to be able to forgive sins, Luke 5:20-21, Luke 7:48-49

Day 4: He claimed to be a Heavenly king, Luke 22:69, Luke 23:1-3, John 18:36-37

Day 5: He claimed to be able to give everlasting life, John 6:47, John 10:28-30, John 11:25

Day 6: He claimed that he would die and come back to life, John 10:17, John 12:32-33, John 16:16, Luke 18:31-33

Day 7: He claimed that he would return again to judge the world, Matthew 24:27-30, Matthew 25:31-32, Mark 14:61-62