

John Series

Leaders Guide

Week 6

Opening Prayer:

Begin your session by inviting God's presence and asking for His guidance in your discussion.

Key Takeaways:

1. Like Nicodemus, we often try to earn salvation through religious efforts rather than faith in Jesus.
2. God speaks to us primarily through His Word (the Bible), not just signs or feelings.
3. True salvation comes through surrender to Christ, not through our own efforts or religious knowledge.

Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor mentioned different levels of seeking God. Where would you place yourself on that spectrum right now? Why?
2. Nicodemus was religious but still seeking something more. Have you ever felt that way in your faith journey? Share your experience.
3. The sermon emphasized the importance of reading the Bible daily. What challenges do you face in maintaining a consistent Bible reading habit? How can we encourage each other in this?
4. Jesus used three illustrations (physical birth, wind, and Moses' serpent) to explain salvation to Nicodemus. Which of these resonates most with you and why?
5. How can we guard against the "Nicodemus trap" of relying on our religious knowledge or good deeds for salvation instead of faith in Christ?
6. The pastor said, "There's never a finish line of seeking God." How can we cultivate a lifelong pursuit of God? What practical steps can we take?
7. Reflect on this quote from the sermon: "We cannot save ourselves by doing enough good. We must save ourselves by humbling ourselves and accepting Christ through faith." How does this challenge or affirm your understanding of salvation?

Practical Applications:

1. Daily Bible Reading: Commit to reading a portion of Scripture each day this week. Share with the group which book or passage you'll be focusing on.
2. Surrender Prayer: Take time each day to pray a prayer of surrender, acknowledging areas where you're trying to be the "champion" instead of relying on Christ.
3. Share Your Faith: Look for an opportunity this week to share with someone how your faith in Christ, not your own efforts, has made a difference in your life.
4. Group Accountability: Pair up with another group member to check in mid-week about your Bible reading and prayer commitments.

Closing Prayer:

Close your session by thanking God for His cleansing power and asking for His help in applying the lessons learned.