

Don't forget to take attendance -Thank you!

- **What is something you've be convinced to do/buy/etc. because of another person's recommendation or influence?**
- **What do you believe about Jesus? Why do you believe that?**
Leaders, this is meant to be a question to reflect on, not a question for them to answer out loud. It would be helpful if you came prepared with some cards, paper, etc. to have them write their answers down or encourage them to write it in their phone. The purpose of this question is to give them time to think about **why** they believe what they believe, not necessarily to answer. You can encourage them that what they write on their paper is for their eyes only. Give them a few minutes to think through and write, then continue with the discussion.

The Gospel of John is a first-hand account of John's experience and journey with Jesus. It is full of Jesus' teachings, and stories of His interactions with all walks of people. Yet, John had a very specific purpose for writing his Gospel account.

Have someone volunteer to read John 20:30-31

- **Why did John write his Gospel account?**
John explained the he wrote his Gospel account so that those who read it might **believe and have life.**
- **What specifically does John want us to believe about Jesus? What other things have people throughout history believed about Jesus?**
John wanted us to believe that Jesus is the Christ/Messiah, and the Son of God. Help your group to understand what it means to for Jesus to be the Christ/Messiah. Share with your group that throughout history there have been people who have thought Jesus to be a great philosopher, teacher, model, even someone who fought for justice, but at the same time not God. There are plenty of people **today** that think the same. Yet, this is the opposite of what John describes. John clearly describes that Jesus was more than a person/teacher, He was God.
- **What does it mean to have "life in Jesus' name?"**
Life both refers to eternal life when we die, but it also refers to the abundant life we have access to by following Jesus. Help your group think through examples of how life can be abundant as Jesus described in John 10:10.

While other Gospel's begin with Jesus' family tree, or the story of His birth, John chooses to begin telling his account at the beginning of everything. He starts his Gospel by quoting the first three words of the Bible.

Have someone volunteer to read John 1:1-3 & 1:14

- **What is the significance that Jesus has always existed?**
This can be hard to wrap our minds around, but it is an important theological pillar to recognize that Jesus was not created, but has always been and He played a role in creation itself in the beginning.

- **How does that make you feel that the creator of everything stepped into that very creation?**

There can be some great conversation around this truth. Many times, this can be humbling to us, make us feel loved, or even be a reminder of how crazy what Jesus did truly was. It is a powerful example of the person we follow – Jesus, who is king of everything, chose to humble Himself to be born as a baby and to endure and suffer on our behalf.

- **How should the reality that God became a man affect your life today?**

The idea here is – this is a BIG concept that God became a man. Let's help your group connect the dots as to how that big concept has daily application in their lives. It should remind us that Jesus understands what it is like to be tempted, to suffer, to grieve, etc. He understands and He cares.

New Idea

We would love for you to help your group to develop some personal bible study habits during our study of the Gospel of John. One idea is to send your group a text/email/message every week with the verses for the upcoming small group discussion. Ask them to read it on their own and personally think through the following three questions.

John 1:1-18

- What does this tell me about God?
- What does this tell me about people?
- Is there a next step for me to take because of this?

You can refer to these questions in group, but do not have to. The main purpose is to build the routine of reading and applying the Bible on their own.

LAST THING – Use some time in your Small Group to look over the project list for Servolution and decide what projects your group might be interested in. Registration opens for small groups February 11th. The project list and instructions on how to register are attached in the leader email.

Thanks!