

Series Sermon-based Growth Group Questions

June 6, 2021

John 1:6-13

Introductory Discussion:

What insight from Sunday's sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

Discussion:

1. Why does Jesus need a witness? (See verse 10.)
 - a. How did His own people react to His coming (verse 11)? Why do you think that is?
2. Jesus called John the greatest prophet, but John was not the light (verse 8). What does it tell us about Jesus if John was the greatest prophet ever (Matthew 11:11)?
3. What does it tell us about Jesus that, according to verse 9, He came into the world?
 - a. What would it be like for the God of the universe to be willing to enter this fallen world?
 - b. What does that tell us about how he feels about us?
4. The world was created by Jesus and through Jesus, according to the internal logic of God. What does it say about us that when He arrived, we did not recognize him?
 - a. Humans are so alienated from God that we can't recognize Him even if He stands before us. So how should we emulate John, the Baptist?
5. Israel's existence was mainly for one purpose. What was it?
 - a. And yet, they rejected Jesus. This opens a new way to God. According to verses 12 and 13, what is this new way to God?
6. John uses terms like "received Him" and "believe in" (which could be translated "into"). How does that help us understand what it means to crossover into a relationship with God?
 - a. In the sermon Jeff discusses 3 meanings for this. How are each of these important to entering a saving relationship with Jesus?
 - i. Knowledge
 - ii. Assent
 - iii. Dependence

1. How does this dependence on God change the way we live?

7. What does it mean in verse 12 to be children of God?

8. What ways to become children of God are rejected in verse 13?
 - a. What does it mean to be born of blood and why is that rejected?
 - b. What does it mean to be born of the will of the flesh and why is that rejected?
 - c. What does it mean to be born of the will of a man and why is that rejected?

9. According to verse 12, who is the gospel for?
 - a. Since we may encounter people from other cultures and backgrounds, how should we approach being a witness?