

WHY CONNECT IN A HOME GROUP?

In Home Groups, we to encourage each other, turn to God with the needs of the church family, and discuss what God says about life. Sound good? Check out your options on our website or the Trinity Church app.

CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW

We are journeying through one of the richest books of the Bible, "The Gospel According To John." This account begins with an amazing array of the identity, and glory of Jesus. The first 18 verses are a prelude, an overture of the coming revelation and themes in "John." The following is a sample of what we have learned about Jesus in the first 34 verses. Yes, it is long.

PART ONE: The Word (1-18)

- "The Word," the full expression of God, the "ultimate self-disclosure" of God, the self-expression of God. (From D. A. Carson's excellent commentary, "The Gospel According To John.") Later in the text, we discover that Jesus is the Word. (v.29)
- The Word has eternally existed with God, He is the Creator, He reveals God
- In Him is life, He is the light, the one who reveals how we can have life in God.
- John the Baptist came as a witness to Jesus, to reveal and to prepare the way for Jesus
- When Jesus came to the Jewish people, He was not received by some. But those who did receive Him were given the right to become children of God.
- The Word became flesh and lived among us (Lit. tabernacled), He is the one and only from God and "We have seen His glory"
- John the Baptist testified that there is another "one" coming of higher rank
- This Word brings fullness of grace and truth
- Though no mere human has seen God, the Word explains God. Amen!

PART TWO: Early witnesses to the Word (19-51)

- John the Witness (John the Baptizer) (19-34)
 - I am not the Christ, Another one will come
 - John identified Jesus as the one coming into the world. God revealed to him that this is "the One."
 - Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
 - John saw the Spirit descending on and remaining on Him.
 - This One baptizes in the Holy Spirit; This One is the Son of God.
- The early disciples of Jesus (35-51)

DISCUSS TOGETHER

How did you become a follower of Jesus? Who played similar roles as the Baptizer, Andrew, or Philip in your life? What and who first drew you to Jesus?

If the author means for this passage to become a template of discipleship (followership), what is the process? What does it include or not include? How did each of these people learn of Jesus? What then happened?

As we walk through "the gospel of John," we will regularly look at what it means to "believe" in Jesus (cf. 20:31). What are your early observations about discipleship / followership from this passage?

In this passage we see people with a seeking attitude. Who might this be in your world?

PLEASE PRAY

The needs are great.

- Please pray for families who have lost or sick loved ones
- Please pray for Trinity to be a place of hope, peace, truth, and unity. Pray for our elders as they shepherd the church.
- Please pray for our nation, our leaders, and our peace
- Please pray for our global partners, especially those in difficult places
- Pray for the seeking people in your worlds