

Small Group Discussion Questions - Fall Semester // Week Two

Remember, these questions are just tools for discussion. You don't need to 'get through them all'. Use the questions that are helpful, skip the questions that are not. And let the conversation flow naturally.

Optional Ice Breaker(s)

- a) Do you watch the kinds of competition shows that Cam mentioned on Sunday morning (America's Got Talent, X Factor, etc.)? If not, what are a few examples of your favourite TV shows?
- b) What is the funniest thing you have seen on tv? Do you have a favourite episode, clip or meme that still makes you laugh every time you think about it?

Passage and Discussion

Read 1 John 1:1-4

- a) What stands out to you upon first reading of this passage? What is a theme, verse, or word that you find encouraging? What do you find challenging in this passage? Does anything stand out to you differently than when you read this last week?
- b) C.S. Lewis' presents three options regarding Jesus' divinity: a lunatic, a liar or Lord. Which of these options do you think are most common among non-Christians? If you needed to, how would you argue that Jesus is Lord, instead of the other two options?
- c) On Sunday, Cam asked the simple question: "who is Jesus?" This is in contrast to asking the question: "who is Jesus to you?" What is this difference, and why is it important to distinguish between the two? How would you answer this question?
- d) As Christ-followers, why is it important for us to understand that Jesus is fully God (in addition to being fully human)? Why cannot we simply admire Him as a good teacher or role model? What are a few examples of ways that Jesus makes this clear in Scripture?
- e) 1 John begins with the nature of Jesus; that He is God. Why do you think that it was important for the Johannine community to understand this teaching? Why is it so important that we begin at this simple truth, even today?
- f) **Read John 1:1-5.** What do these verses teach us about Jesus' divinity? Have you ever noticed the connection between the first few verses of 1 John, and these verses in the Gospel of John? Why is it important for us to understand this connection?

- g) On Sunday, Cam taught that the implication of this truth is that Jesus deserves all honour and praise in our lives; He deserves everything from us. What does this mean for us in our everyday lives? How do we give Him all honour and praise with our whole lives?
- h) As you reflect on your own life, are there areas of your life that you are (consciously or unconsciously) holding back from Jesus' lordship? How can you fully surrender these areas of your life to Him? What has stopped you from doing that in the past?
- i) Was there anything else in the message on Sunday that stood out to you as impactful or challenging?

Take it Home (Optional Ideas for Response this Week)

- a) Take some time this week to remind yourself about what you already know about God. Make a list of the obvious things, and reflect on your list, and what makes these truths so important.
- b) This week, take time to reflect on your own beliefs about Jesus - do you truly believe He is God, or have you come to simply respect Him as a good teacher? Ask Jesus to help you see and believe in Him as He is, not as we imagine Him.

Optional Ideas for Prayer Time

- a) In this season, it is important for us to be intentionally praying for each other. This also means that we must each choose to be honest and vulnerable with our prayer requests. Take time to 'check-in' about how each person is doing, and pray for them.
- b) As a group, spend a few minutes praying for this new series that we are walking through as a church. Pray that God would use it to help each of us become more like Him, and to help our church become more like the community He wants us to be.