

JESUS, PART 1: SOMETHING NEW

Jesus didn't come to extend an old religion. He did not come to simply complete the Bible, so we'd have both a New Testament and an Old Testament. He didn't come to create Judaism 2.0. From the angel's announcement to Mary that she would give birth to a son whose *kingdom would never end*, it was clear: Jesus would do something new for the world.

THE BIG IDEA: Jesus came to do something new for the world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What influenced your first impressions of Jesus—church, movies, television, art? How accurate were those first impressions?
- 2. What, if anything, surprised you about the Jesus that Chris described during the message?
- 3. With your Bible or Bible app, read John 1:15–18.

¹⁵ John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me." ¹⁶ From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us.

John 1:15-18 (NLT)

- 4. Do you tend to view religion as a collection of laws (rules) or as a relationship with God that is defined by grace and truth? What shaped your view?
- 5. During the message, Chris said, "The Bible is God's Word, but every word is not for everybody." Do you agree with that statement? How does it challenge your view of the Bible?
- 6. Is it difficult for you to believe that Jesus came to do something new for you? Why or why not?
- 7. What is one thing you can do to make the most of the next 90 days and pursue a closer connection to Jesus? How can this group support and encourage you?

MOVING FORWARD

Jesus didn't enter the world in order to protect the status quo. He came to overturn it by changing our relationship with God. Jesus was the bridge between the Old and New Covenants. He was born under one to introduce the other. And he did it for the world.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. John 1:9-10 (NLT)