

THE 7 BIG QUESTIONS

Discussion Questions



Session Seven:

Can I Know God Personally?

Icebreaker / Warm-Up

1. Share a funny or awkward story about a time you mistook someone for someone else (like the wave-to-the-wrong-person story). What does that reveal about the difference between knowing of someone and truly knowing them?

Digging Into Scripture

- 1. <u>Read Luke 5:1–11</u>. How does Peter respond when he realizes who Jesus is? What do you notice about repentance being Peter's first step in relationship?
- 2. <u>Read Acts 2:37–38</u>. Why do you think Peter makes repentance and baptism the starting point for everyone else?
- 3. <u>Read Matthew 16:13–25</u>. How can Peter get it so right ("You are the Christ") and then so wrong just a few verses later? What does this teach us about expectations in our walk with God?
- 4. <u>Read Matthew 26:31–35 and Luke 24:10–12</u>. What do Peter's denial and his desperate run to the tomb show us about the highs and lows of following Jesus?
- 5. <u>Read John 21:15–19</u>. How does Jesus restore Peter after his failure? What does this tell us about God's heart toward us when we stumble?

Connecting to Life

- Peter expected Jesus to be a triumphant king, not a suffering Savior. In what ways do our own expectations of God sometimes clash with His plan? How do you handle those moments?
- The sermon line was: "Christianity has nothing to offer those who are comfortable with the way things are." Do you agree? Why or why not?
- How does Peter's transformation—from shame to bold preaching in Acts 2— encourage you in your own journey of faith?

Application

- Which of the practical steps to knowing God personally (prayer, Scripture, community, discipleship, sharing faith) is strongest in your life right now?
 Which one do you need to grow in most?
- If eternal life is about knowing God now (John 17:3), what's one way you can move from "acquaintance faith" to "friendship faith" this week?

Prayer

• Take a few moments to pray for one another that you would experience God personally this week, and run to him in times of desperation.