the gospel of

all intents and purposes

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 16: SO THAT YOU KNOW IT'S TRUE

Read the Text John 21:20-25

20 Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" 21 When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" 22 Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" 23 So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"

24 This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

25 Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Main Point

After four years in the Gospel of John, we have made it to our last passage. The final words of the book sum up a pretty simple yet powerful truth which is that *if you believe in Jesus, you will find*

life. We may find ourselves in different places with this truth. Maybe you don't believe in Jesus. Or maybe you do and you're just in a rut right now. Or maybe your faith is strong and you feel the impact of this truth. Wherever we may land in our faith, we are invited into a deep, meaningful life with Jesus. But what does it mean to have life in Jesus? *Life in Jesus means turning away from the temptations of the world and finding our true joy and peace in Jesus*. Easier said than done though. In this same passage, we see Peter fall into a very familiar temptation that we all tend to fall into. Peter loses sight of following Jesus, and instead compares his life to John's. Too often, we base our own self-worth and our own spirituality by comparing ourselves to others. *When we fall into the trap of comparison, Jesus offers us a simple solution: to follow Him*.

Reflect Together

- 1. *Who is God?* Jesus offers us life in Him. What does it mean to have life in Jesus? How is that better than finding life in this world?
- 2. *What has He done?*: How have you personally experienced better life in Jesus than in the world?
- 3. *Who are you?*: When are you tempted to compare yourself to others? What does that look like? What helps you to come out of it?
- 4. What are you to do?: How do you want to grow in following Jesus? What are some next steps you can take? If the story of Jesus is true, what would have to change about your life today?

Abide Together

Pray together about what came up during discussion. Pray that each of you would find life in Jesus and faithfully follow Him. Pray against the temptation to compare yourselves to others.