

the gospel of

JOHN

all intents and purposes

DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 3: OVERCOMING THE WORLD

Read the Text

John 16:25-33

25 “I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. 26 In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; 27 for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.[a] 28 I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

29 His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! 30 Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” 31 Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? 32 Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

Main Point

Have you ever pretended to know more about something than you did because you really wanted to relate to someone? That's what we see with the disciples in this chapter. Jesus explains some incredibly complex concepts, and the disciples assume they completely understand. The lesson for us in this interaction is that Jesus doesn't need us to completely understand Him or His plans. ***Jesus solves our greatest problems without us fully grasping what He is doing.*** And if we are humble and honest enough to admit it, there is actually a lot about God we assume we understand, but in reality, we don't. ***The magnitude of who God is and what He has done can't ever be matched with enough life change to show that we actually fully comprehend the gravity of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.*** But this is actually good news! Jesus knows that we don't understand. And He doesn't need us to understand. ***He lovingly assures his disciples – and us – that IN HIM, we have peace because it was HIM – not us – who overcame the world.*** Jesus accomplished it all, and all we need to do is have faith and follow Him.

Reflect Together

1. ***Who is God?*** The disciples thought that they fully comprehended who God was. God doesn't need or expect that from us though. What do you think of the fact that you will never truly comprehend the depths of who God is? How do you relate to the disciples in their overestimation of their comprehension?
2. ***What has He done?*** John 16:33 says "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." This brief verse almost sums up the whole Gospel! What does this mean to you and how does it impact your life? Where could your understanding of this verse be limited?

3. **Who are you?:** Pastor Eddie reminded us of who we are in Christ. We talked about this last week as well. Which of these resonate with you the most? Which ones are hard to accept, and why is that? Did you have any further thoughts or realizations about the truths we discussed last week?

In Christ you have been chosen (Eph. 1:4)

In Christ you were predestined (Eph 1:4)

In Christ you have grace (1 Tim 1:9)

In Christ you have redemption and forgiveness (Eph. 1:7)

In Christ you have a new identity (2 Cor. 5:17)

In Christ you have sonship (Gal. 3:26)

In Christ you are loved with inseparable Love (Rom. 8:38-39)

In Christ, you have peace (John 16:33)

4. **What are you to do?:** We will never fully comprehend the depth of God's love for us, but what in your life would change if you had a deeper understanding of who God is what He has done for you?

Abide Together

Pray as a group over what came up during your discussion. Specifically, give God thanks for the truths that were listed in who we are in Christ (see question 3).

Mission Together

Who in your life needs to be told or reminded of who they are in Christ and that they have peace in Him? What can you do this week to pursue that person?