

Announcements

One of the big Thanksgiving events we do on Sunday mornings is our KidStuf breakfast that takes place in the KidStuf Theater on Sunday, November 28th during the 1st service. Lisa is looking to see if a few Grow Groups would be willing to volunteer to service the families and help this a great event to love on our children and their parents. Can you please share this with your group and discuss maybe helping service at this event, especially if you are in the stage of life of “before” or “after” kids.

Conversation Starter (choose one)

- When you get some good news, who is the first person you want to share it with and why?
- As a kid, what would it take to get you to believe something your brother or sister told you?

Sermon Based Questions

Read John 1:19-27

(If you want to read more about John the Baptist to understand the context more read Luke 1:39-80, 3:1-22, Mark 1:1-11)

As you read the beginning of John’s conversation what stands out to you about this conversation with the religious leaders?

The people around John wanted to figure out who he was. Some thought he was a great preacher/teacher/man of God. Others might have wanted to undermine his teachings, but John would not let them do either. (verse 20, 23, 26-27)

- How have you seen that reflected in our Christian culture today?
- How has the Christian culture responded differently than John did?
 - Is there an example where maybe you have lifted up a person over Jesus?
- Why is this important if we are going to be about lifting up Jesus and putting our hope and worth in him?
- How do you wrestle with the tension of knowing that people need to see Jesus in you, yet knowing we need them to see Jesus not us?

Read John 1:29-31

John reveals Jesus as “The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world”

- How would you explain to someone what it means for Jesus to be the Lamb of God?
- How would you tell them about the need for Jesus to take away our sin?

Going Deeper

Read John 1:32-43

Pastor David used the word supernatural to describe a way to “testify” or share our testimony of works of Jesus in our life as John did, with the caveat that this word may conjure some negative reactions:

- Do you resonate with that negative reaction? In what way?
- Do you see the things God does in our lives as supernatural? (Answers to prayer, comforted with peace, encouragement from others, salvation, other examples?) Why or why not?
- How does the phrase “I can’t but God can” connect to how we see and tell others of the works of God in our lives?

Pastor David said that we are called to be like John, to “testify” or share our testimonies of how we have seen who Jesus is and what he has done, not just in the Bible but in our lives:

- How do you feel about sharing that kind of story about God working in your life?
 - What makes it hard or easy for you? What stops you or helps you?
- Why is it important that they hear them like the others heard John’s testimony?
- What is a story you would share with someone to show how God has done a work unexplainable apart from God? Have you seen Him do that in your life recently?
- David said that John’s conversation was God-ordained, how have you seen God ordaining your conversations?

Optional Digging Deeper

Read John 1:43-51

- How do we see God’s grace shown on Nathanael as a “sign” to him that Jesus was who he said he was?
- What does this tell us about Jesus and how he reaches out to us today?

Challenge and Prayer

Is there a person God would want you to share your story with this week? How can we help you and pray for you to do that? (Pray for each other and commit to asking next week).