

Small Group Study: *Jesus, I Believe!*

Welcome:

Share stories of new birth as a believer of someone you know. How did your father, mother, sibling, best friend or other become a believer and how did it change their life?

Worship:

Read the story of Saul/Paul's conversion in Acts 9:1-22. Listen to or watch a worship song, then pray.

Word:

SCRIPTURE

John 20:30-31

OBSERVATION

1. John offers testimony of events "that you may believe..."
2. "Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God..." = Savior and Lord
3. "...that by believing you may have life in his name."
Faith in Jesus will definitely impact your life.

APPLICATION

What does it mean to believe in Jesus?

Believing affects your life. Faith must be more than passive agreement, a lack of disagreement or something you embrace as a family attribute. (John 1:12-13) Placing faith in someone is to let them into your life with the allowance to change you.

How does faith arise, in other words, what leads someone to believe in Jesus?

A. Evidence Based Faith

1. John 1:14; 20:30-31
2. I John 1:1-3

B. Power of Testimony

1. Samaritan Woman's Testimony (John 4:28-29; 42)
 2. Gives Real Time, Real Life Confirmation of Scripture
 3. We are hardwired to seek personal affirmation in making decisions
- #### C. Direct Encounter with God!
1. Samaritans (John 4:42)
 2. Jesus pointed to the Father's initiative. (John 6:44,65)

Witness:

THREE QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

Do YOU believe in Jesus?

Do YOU have new life in Christ?

Test it like this: When you talk about your life, is God central to the story or just a footnote? When you tell the story of your life, does God play a large role or just one or two scenes?

To whom are YOU a witness?

Make a list of people that you will pray for who do not believe in Jesus. Pray God will remove barriers to faith in their lives. Pray that God will open the way for you to be a witness for them.

PRAYER – pray for each other and for your list
