

LifeGroup Study Sheet

March 12, 2023 – Red Letters: Gospel of Mark (part 9)

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing you for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

Describe a time in your life where you made a bold decision about a new direction you were taking in your life. Whether it was a decision about who you would marry, where you'd go to school, what job you were going to take, etc. How did you show people publicly about the decision you made? What gave you confidence in sharing that with other people? How do you think that relates to baptism?

Digging In

Question 1: Read Mark 16:14-16. This text seems to imply that baptism is necessary for salvation. Pastor Jeff talked about the importance of using God's Word to validate places in Scripture that seem to contradict themselves.

Read: John 3:16, John 3:18, John 3:36, John 5:24, John 6:53-54

How do these verses teach about salvation? What are the requirements for salvation in these texts?

Question 2: Read Romans 4:1-5, Galatians 3:12-15 The Scriptures are clear about salvation being through faith alone. Abraham and the OT Prophets were saved by faith, and Christ-Followers are also saved by faith. How do these verses show you this is true? How does this apply to your life today?

Question 3: Read John 5:24. Think about the strong implications of what Jesus is teaching in these statements. **Read 1 John 5:11-13** and answer this question: Who gives eternal life? What are the crucial parts of these verses that imply receiving salvation or "life?" Why is this important regarding baptism?

Taking it Home

Reflect on these verses to help you understand your salvation is through faith alone:

- Ephesians 2:8-10

- Romans 10:9
- John 3:15-16
- 2 Thess 2:13

How do these verses encourage you in your faith?

How do these verses challenge you to trust Jesus in a deeper and more intimate way?

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?