



STORYTELLERS

Week Four | John - To Everyone | 04.04-05.2020

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90 minute group gathering.

Message Recap: John had been called by Jesus to follow Him. Without hesitation, John dropped his fishing nets and followed the man who would change John's life and the whole world forever. John experienced a life with Jesus that He wanted everyone to experience.

» Opening

(2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
 - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - **Remember there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: No judgement - are you afraid of the dark?
- Digging Deeper: What makes the darkness scary to so many? What are some ways we combat the darkness around us?

» Observation | Read John 1:1-5;12:12-19; 19:23-27

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | Hope shines in darkness.

(12 minutes)

- Where do you see hope shining in this present darkness? What is it that separates hope from hopelessness?

» Introducing Forever | Reference John 1:1-5

(12 minutes)

- Why does John begin his gospel account the way that he did? What can we learn from these first five verses?
- Is your faith or your fear growing in this season? In what ways are you feeding your faith? How are you feeding your fear?

» Temporary Approval | Reference John 12:12-19

(12 minutes)

- What were the crowds shouting as Jesus entered Jerusalem? What does this word mean? What does this scene tell you about who and what the people were expecting?
- Is your life adjusting to the light or to the darkness? Are you looking for Jesus - the light and the hope - or are you just becoming more comfortable with the darkness, fear, and hopelessness around you? What is the difference?

» Concluding Shots | Reference John 19:23-27

(12 minutes)

- What is the significance of this devastating part of Jesus' last moments?
- How will you be remembered when this time of darkness is over? What are the intentional things you need to be doing to grow?

» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15minutes)

- How can you find the hope of heaven in this time? How can you help others find the hope Jesus died to make available to everyone?
- Close by praying for each other, our community and our world to find glimpses of Christ's hope even in the darkness.