

4Ws The Gospel of John: So That You May Know the *Light*

Part 2 - *John 1:3-5*
Dgroup's Curriculum: Leaders Copy

WORSHIP

(Remember, the Worship time is designed to get everyone involved in 'recommending' God, so make sure you highlight who God is and what he has done for us, and avoid asking him for anything at least for these few minutes.)

Consider reading Psalm 78:32-72 together, taking turns reading a verse a time, or reading responsively with the leader reading a verse and the group responding with the next verse. You can discuss the Psalms you read and share what they mean to you.

Consider singing some of the songs on the sheets that were included in your packet if you have someone in the group that plays the guitar or can lead music and/or play the guitar

End your worship time together with 'popcorn praise'. Tell the group that you'll pray together, but without the usual trappings of prayer, no long prayers, no eloquent speech, and no requests, just simple words of praise like, "Father, you know I was almost in an accident this week and you showed up and protected me and my family, thank you."

WELCOME

(Remember, the Welcome Question is designed to get everyone talking, so make sure you take your time and allow everyone to respond to this question.)

Question: If you're still young enough to remember your grandparents can you share with us what kind of people they were? How were they different from your parents and how was your relationship with them different from the relationship you had with your parents? Tell us the story.

WORD

(Remember that our time in the Word is intended to remind people what they learned during the message and **help them find ways to apply those truths to their lives**. Hand out the copies of the questions and then lead them in a discussion. Make sure that everyone has a chance to be involved in the discussion without letting anyone dominate the discussion time.)

JOHN 1:3-5

³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

1. Having understood that God, who created all things, is a big God, what implications does this fact present in you? How are you dealing with your relationship with God on a daily basis?

Answer:

This is an open ended question with no exacting answer. Encourage your group members to express their emotions toward their relationship with God. If there is one who have yet to receive Christ, focus on him/her and nudge towards starting a relationship with Jesus.

2. Light and life goes hand in hand as we have learned that not only does light (the particle) gives life to plants and animals, the light that is Jesus Christ, leads people to an eternal life. How do you feel having known that a big and mighty God took time to create you and actually loves you?

Answer:

Again, this is an open ended question aimed to encourage discussion. Steer your group's discussion towards having a deep appreciation that God has made a way for us to get back into the light when we strayed away into the darkness.

3. Even though God has made a way for people in the darkness to find their way back into the light of eternal life, they have not appreciated it, in fact people have rejected it and despised it. Take time to examine ourselves to see if there are anything that might be serving as a shade that prevents this light from God from penetrating your heart. What do you is needed to be done for us to see that light?

Answer:

This question is pointed at a person who has yet to surrender his/her life to Jesus. If your group members are all Christians, try to discuss what they have observed that maybe serving as hindrance for people to come to Christ with the objective of using what information you gather in helping people to get rid of those shades and enable them to see the light in Christ.

Close your time in the Word with prayer.

WORK

(Remember that the main question to ask during the Work time is, **“Who else needs to hear about this?”** You will be generating a list of people who we will plan to invite to a future meeting.)

This week we have been talking about the light and how the light has impacted our lives. It has shined in the darkness and illuminated our path. We will never again have to walk in darkness now that Jesus is lighting the way for us. It's time we realized that we are being selfish when we allow other people to fumble around in the darkness when we have the light of life. Remind the group that God is only calling us to be a witness – He is not asking us to become theologians or experts in our field. We only have to learn to tell the story of what Jesus did for us when He shined His light into our darkness. Other people may not want to hear it, but that doesn't change the fact that the light always scatters the darkness. It's never the other way around, so let's get busy sharing the Good News with other people.

Those of us who lead should remember that there is no better way to motivate others to share the gospel than to set an example for them. Speak to others about Jesus when you have the opportunity and set an example of lifestyle evangelism for the members of your group. They will be much more likely to follow your example than they will be to simply do what you tell them to do. Ask the group to discuss this and then ask them to think through the list of people you have been

praying for each week. Discuss how we can be more aggressively involved in sharing the good news with these folks for whom God has burdened us. We will pray for these people tonight and each night we're together until they come to Life Group, or come to Christ through some other means. Have each couple or individual share the name of one couple/person to pray for and then ask one of the other people in the group to pray for them.

Close your time together in prayer.