



GO WITH WHAT YOU KNOW, GROW IN WHAT YOU DON'T

March 2, 2025

Get a Grip & Get a Life // Truth That Divides // John 9:18-34

CONNECT – Announcements (page 2), Getting to Know One Another, & Getting Started

Since this is our first gathering, let's take a few moments to **introduce ourselves**. What's your name, where are you from, and if you could only eat one dessert for the rest of your life, what would it be?

For the rest of our questions, we encourage everyone to participate, but don't feel like every person has to chime in on every question!

1. Is there anything noteworthy that is going on in your life right now? Where have you seen God at work in your life or the lives of others recently?
2. Where in your regular routine of life do you encounter people who seem uninterested in having you teach them something new?

REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. From a fresh reading of John 9:18-34 [read it together], what's one thing that speaks to you in your current walk?
4. What's one thing from this week's sermon that you hope we talk about as a group?
5. Which of the "4 willing ways to let the works of God shine through your life" shared by Pastor Jeremy do you struggle with the most?
6. The blind man in our passage for this week went through several stages of understanding who Jesus was. What were those stages, and how did his knowledge of Jesus grow?
7. This man's testimony (9:25 - "though I was blind, now I see") is echoed in one line of a favorite song for Christians of the last 300 years – *Amazing Grace*. John Newton's words lead us to sing, "I once was lost, but now I'm found. Was blind, but now I see." What, if anything, about this song resonates with your own experience? Why do you think it has become a favorite for so many Christians?
8. How was it possible that such highly trained religious leaders could be so blind to who Jesus was, and how can we avoid the same situation?
9. **Smaller Group (Gender-Specific) Discussion Questions:** Where, in your life, would sharing what you know about Christ cause you to become an outsider? Have you considered that cost? Are you willing to be an outsider with Jesus, knowing that this is better than being an insider without Him?
10. Pastor Jeremy pointed us to 1 Cor. 6:9-11 as a reminder that we don't have to live in the labels that have been given to us through our sinful pasts once we've come to know Christ. Read those verses again. What labels might be a part of your "such were some of you" story?

PROTECT - Prayer Prompt (you can do this as a combined or divided group)



Share any prayer requests you might have with one another. And remember how Jesus, upon seeing that the crowds who were distressed and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd, felt compassion for them. And He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.” (Mt. 9:36-38). Pray for one another using “popcorn prayers” – take turns with any who are willing praying just a sentence or two about a need that has been expressed, and pray for workers to enter the Lord’s harvest as a part of that prayer.

Announcements

Welcome to our first trimester of Life Groups!

If you haven’t yet, add the following dates for remaining church-wide fellowship events to your yearly calendar (maybe just take a picture for now):

- April 4 – Church Night Out with the Greensboro Grasshoppers baseball vs. Asheville @ 6:30pm
- June 1 – Church-Wide Picnic at Stokesdale Community Part @12:30pm
- July 13 – Ice Cream Social (also a Bible Camp follow-up)
- August 2 – ServeNC (day of serving in partnership with local outreach ministries)
- October 12 – Soup, Sandwich, & Game Night @ TBA
- November 1 – Love My Neighbors Day (day of serving local neighbors through practical service projects)
- December 17 – Christmas Caroling @ TBA

Individual Options for Going Deeper

The man who was healed in John 9 began to tell others about what Jesus had done to restore his sight. With concise and clear language, he made it clear that “though I was blind, now I see” (9:25). Have you ever taken the time to write down the details about the difference Christ has made in your own life? If not, would you be willing to? If so, would you take a fresh look at your written testimony as a reminder of His grace and an opportunity for you to refine the story you have the privilege to share with others because of the grace He’s shown you? Take a look at the resources below for fresh pointers on how you can share about what God has done for you.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/share-testimony.html>