

## Small Group Bible Study Questions

- A) Why do you think it was so important to Jesus Christ to make sure that people knew His words were the words of God? Why did He have to emphasize that point so often? In our culture, who is the ultimate authority, who's credibility lends strength to another person's words?
- B) Could Jesus have simply said to people, "I am the Father, just listen to me and do what I am asking/telling you to do?" If Jesus and God are the same person, why do we refer to them differently, and why is it important?
- C) Jesus always led with the Good News about salvation, He did not come to judge, but to save. Is this the approach of most Christians in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? What are the danger signs that the church has lost her focus on Jesus' simple approach (both from the left and right perspective)?
- D) How can we assure that we speak, only according to the initiative of God (John 12:49)?
- E) The message of Jesus is somewhat summarized at the end of John 12 in a "benediction" passage which closes the first section of John's amazing and personal Gospel account. As we arrive at this mid-point, what are the areas of your own life which you sense need the greatest attention to draw you out of the darkness and into the light? What are the areas of your life which God wants to see real change? Share those areas with your small group and take some time to pray with one another for these -- and the previous several weeks of issues and opportunities from John 12. Be open and honest!

# All Or Nothing

Long Beach Alliance Church • June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005 • Pastor Chris Lankford

**HE WHO SEES ME  
SEES THE ONE WHO SENT ME.  
~ JOHN 12:45 (NASB)**

### **1) The Perfect Unity Of Father & Son**

- A) Jesus' message to the world is emphatic (He "cried out" -- John 12:44). His urgent message to the world is to "believe" in Him (cf. John 5:24).
- B) By believing in Jesus Christ, we are also believing in God (12:44-45). The two of them are one (in message and in being -- cf. John 10:30).
- C) "Seeing" Jesus (12:45) is the equivalency of seeing Him correctly, for who He really is. To "see" Jesus is to "believe" in Jesus. Believing in Jesus is to believe in God the Father, who we can see in the person of Jesus Christ (cf. John 6:46-47).

### **Summary #1**

**If you reject Christ, you reject God.  
If you believe in Jesus Christ, you are believing in God.**

## 2) The Light Of The World

- A) Jesus is the Light of the world (John 12:46; cf. 1:5, 3:19). If you do not believe in Jesus Christ, you remain in darkness.

### **Summary #2**

**The world is trapped in sin (darkness). In order to out of darkness, you must believe in Jesus Christ (Light).**

## 3) Jesus Saves!

- A) Jesus' message is about salvation, not judgment (John 12:47; cf. 3:17). Jesus' message is the Good News (Gospel), not bad news (the Law) (cf. John 1:17).
- B) If a person rejects the Good News, then all they are left with is the bad news (12:48). The very words of freedom and light which Jesus shared will serve as a clear judgment against those who do not believe in Jesus Christ (cf. John 5:30).

### **Summary #3**

**The words of salvation which Jesus Christ shares with the world will be salvation for some and judgment for others.**

## 4) The Authority Of The Good News

- A) Jesus' message did not originate from Himself, but from God (John 12:49; cf. 5:30). Every word Jesus spoke was from the Father, it is 100% reliable!

- B) There is "eternal life" in the Word of God. It is these 'eternal' words which bring life which Jesus has been sharing with the world (John 12:50; cf. 3:15-16, 4:14, 6:40, 47, 68, 10:28).

### **Summary #4**

**You can have full confidence in the words of Christ. They are the words of God which bring eternal life.**

## 5) Key Questions From John's Mid-Benediction

- A) With all the evidence which has been presented, do you believe in Jesus Christ?
- B) If your life belongs to Jesus Christ, it will be marked by Christlike characteristics (Light). Old ways, values and sins (darkness) should gradually fade. Is your life marked by regular progress of becoming Christlike?
- C) When we share the message of Christ, our message should be one of salvation, not judgment. The goal of the Christian life is not to sin less, but to live in Christ (righteousness) more. Is your Christian life Good News, or bad news, for those who are around you?
- D) The Word of God reveals eternal life. Do you know passages, sections, verses, etc., which 'give' eternal life to others? Do you share those verses with others who do not have eternal life? This is what we are called to do, are you doing it?