

the gospel of

JOHN

he is the one

This Winter, our hope is to see Jesus in chapters 5-10 of John's Gospel. John shows us that He is the One. As God, He is the One with the right to judge, the power to provide soul food, who gives eternal life, and who can save and keep until the end. He is the One with real authority, who can give the Spirit and grant mercy. He is the One with the truth, sent from the Father who can truly see and grant sight. And He is the One who is the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. For everything we need, He is the One. For everything we want, He is the One. Jesus is the One sent from the Father to be for us all that we have ever hoped and longed for.

THE ONE WHO SAVES TIL THE END

Read the text: John 6:35-40

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

Jesus' words in John 6 are good news for His people. Jesus tells His disciples that their salvation comes from God and is not something they accomplish. God is the source of our salvation, the certainty of our salvation, and the security of our salvation.

The Father gives those who will be saved to the Son, draws them to the Son, and then grants that they will believe in the Son. It is all God's work, from start to finish. And when you come to the Son in belief, He will never reject you. Your salvation is certain! The Son will keep you until the end and will raise you up on the last day. This security is guaranteed because salvation is all based on God's work and cannot be undone. You may lose your grip on God, but He never loses His grip on you.

Discussion Questions:

These questions are written for DNA groups, but you can use them in any setting, including missional communities. Because they were written for the intimacy of DNA friendships, you may need to adjust for larger groups.

1. Do you feel sure that you have been saved by God? If yes, why do you feel sure? If you don't, why not? (If you're not sure, spend time talking through this with your group. Jesus says His people can be confident He will raise them up on the last day. Ask your group to help you better understand how you can have this same confidence?)
2. In your story, what outside voices told you that your salvation was dependent on you in some way? Maybe you believed God would only accept you based on your performance? Or maybe you believed you could do something that would cause God to reject you or lose you later on? If so, share a little about your story and how you came to view in some ways that your salvation was dependent on you.
3. In what ways do you still believe that your salvation is dependent on you? Sometimes, we still default back into believing this lie. What does that look like for you? Try to be specific and share examples.

4. God will never reject those who come to Him in faith. But often, we feel like we have to “get ourselves together” to come to Him, or we expect He will have a really harsh word for us when we do. Do you ever feel that way? Why do you think that is? Are there relationships in your story (e.g. with a parent) that have distorted your view of the Father?

5. What is your response to Jesus’ teaching that He will never reject you or lose you? Do you really believe that? How does that make you feel?