

# DISCIPLESHIP

## 4 PERSPECTIVES

STUDY GUIDE | JULY 4, 2021

## JOHN: THE MARKS OF TRUE BELIEF

### THE POINTS FROM THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE WERE:

- Three marks of true belief in Jesus:
  - Remaining faithful to Jesus' teachings.
  - Loving one another.
  - Bearing fruit.

### LET'S TALK

1. What impacted you the most from this week's message?
2. Have you ever really enjoyed something but not been 100% committed?
3. We talk about the cost of discipleship but don't often talk about the cost of non-discipleship. Have you ever thought about the cost of non-discipleship? What do you think you lose out on when you're not fully committed in your discipleship to Jesus?
4. Billy Graham says, "If there is no change in a person's life, he or she must question whether or not they possess the salvation that the gospel proclaims... It should not be surprising if people believe easily in a God who makes no demands, but this is not the God of the Bible. Satan has cleverly misled people by whispering that they can believe in Jesus Christ without being changed, but this is the devil's lie."

Do you think "easy believism" exists in the church today? What are some dangers of this?

5. Pastor Steve says, "faithfulness to Jesus' teachings will never lead us into a life of religious rule-keeping, but rather into an ever-deepening relationship with the precious person that those teachings point to – Jesus himself." What is your experience reading and studying scripture like? How can you read it in such a way that it leads to a deepening relationship with Jesus rather than a life of religious rule-keeping?
6. Working through conflict in a biblical way in order to love well is one of the marks of true belief in Jesus. Describe a time you worked through a relational conflict. How did that impact the relationship? Is there a relational situation right now that your group can pray for?
7. Disciples are called to bear character fruit. Paul describes the fruit of the spirit as love, joy, peace,

*Continued on page 2*

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patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. What fruit have you shown growth in in the past? What fruit do you sense God is calling you to grow in now?

8. Which of the three marks of true belief in Jesus (remaining faithful to Jesus' teachings, loving one another, bearing fruit) do you sense God is calling you to grow in this week?

**LET'S PRAY:** Spend some time in prayer (for each other, for our community and for the world).