



WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

If you have a pattern of having someone share their *Story of Faith* (life before Jesus, encountering Jesus, life since/lately with Jesus) and/or sharing *Evidences of God's grace*, begin with that, followed by a time of thankful prayer for Christ's work in the individual's life/the grace in your lives.

OPENING COMMENT

Every academic paper has a thesis statement, every political speech has an agenda, every book and movie is making a point, journalists report a summary of events, and John the Gospel writer does the same. Steering all of these is *the big idea*. As the twentieth chapter of John's gospel concludes, he shares the big idea: *these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

READ THE TEXT: John 20:30-31

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does John want us to believe from his passage?
2. How does someone receive life in Christ?
3. What elements exist in genuine faith?
4. Once someone obtains eternal life through Jesus, how will they live their present life?



5. What about a particular sign of Jesus recorded in John's gospel or the signs as a whole makes your heart sing? And why? (*Wine: 2:1-11; Healing of a boy: 4:46-54; Healing of a man who couldn't walk: 5:1-15; Feeding the thousands: 6:5-13; Walking on water: 6:16-21; Healing a man born blind: 9:1-7; Raising Lazarus: 11:1-44*)
6. Is the caricature that "born again Christians" act "holier than thou" are "anti-intellectual, anti-science, and socially offensive" wildly inaccurate, somewhat accurate, or spot on?
7. John urges his readers to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing they may have life in his name. How do followers of Jesus communicate this message when society in general sees faith simply as *personal, subjective, religious preference*?

CONCLUSION

What John has done throughout his gospel is shine the clearest light possible on who Jesus is and hold out salvation through faith in Christ for everyone who would believe.

SHARE & PRAY

- Share how you can pray for each other in light of this study.
- Thanks Jesus for opening your spiritually blind eyes, healing your spiritually paralyzed body, feeding your spiritually empty tummies, and raising you from spiritual death to life!
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, for the areas of growth and grace you are seeking, and the needs among you.

